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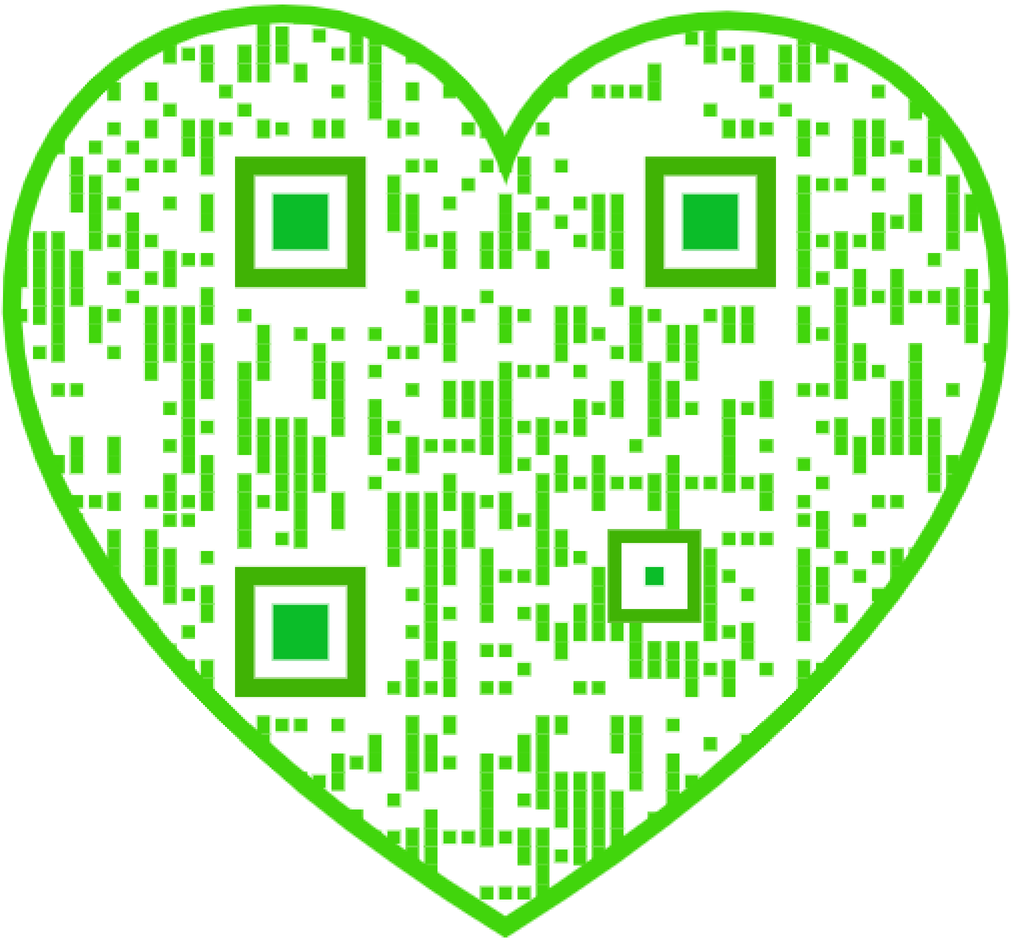

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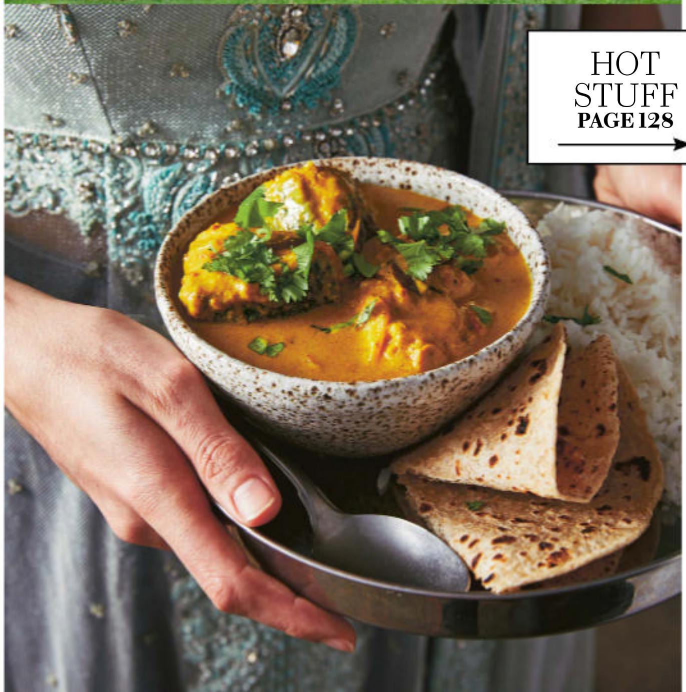

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Home Beautiful INSTA CHAT

SUNRISE PRESENTER EDWINA BARTHOLOMEW INSPIRED OUR FOLLOWERS THIS MONTH WITH HER IDYLLIC COUNTRY ESCAPE, @WARRAMBA.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Even when we're hard at work, there's always time for tea! This was snapped by our editor-in-chief Elle Lovelock at a photo shoot we were doing for a subscription offer page. The vases of flowers and greenery were on standby so we could grab them at a moment's notice to put in a shot to liven it up and make it look pretty.

DREAM AWAY

INSPIRE YOUR OWN DREAM HOME WITH THESE ACCOUNTS

@KELLYBURCHINTERIORS

@ASHLEYOBRADOVITS

@HOME_AT_BROOKES

COVER LOOK

THIS CLASSIC HOME IN BRISBANE, BUILT IN THE 1890s RECEIVED A REFRESH THAT TRANSFORMED IT INTO A RESTORED BEAUTY OUTSIDE AND A LIVEABLE MODERN HOME WITHIN, ALL WHILE RESPECTING ITS HERITAGE.
PHOTOGRAPHY: *Louise Roche*
STYLING: *Kylie Jackes*

PHOTOGRAPHY (TOP) **ABBIE MELLÉ** (BOTTOM LEFT) **@CARLA_ATLEY** (BOTTOM RIGHT) **MEGAN TAYLOR** STYLING (TOP) **ABBIE MELLÉ** FABRIC (IN BACKGROUND) **ELLIOTT CLARKE 'GLENMORE' FABRIC IN STONE**

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Plantino Native Landmark Spotted Gum

ELLE'S TEXTILE OF THE MONTH
I just love a paisley, and this L'Indienne 'Camber' fabric in Yellow/Pebble by GP & J Baker through Elliott Clarke is a fresh and modern interpretation.

EDITOR'S LETTER

When hot cross buns hit the shelves in January, I'm not ashamed to say that I bought some. I absolutely love them. The scent of cinnamon, the jewels of dried fruit and the fact that they're the perfect vessel for a wedge of salted butter. Now that we're on the brink of autumn, I feel I can go public with my bun consumption. It's such a wonderful time of year, isn't it? Baked goods aside, I relish in the seasonal opportunity to change up my interior. Caramel, rust and chocolate brown, here I come! If you're in the same headspace, check out our Hot Chocolate shopping trend on page 30. And if you're worried about decorating with "brown", don't be. It looks fabulous with light and mid-blues, white, pale pinks and sage greens, plus linen hues. Trust me – it's a versatile autumn/winter neutral and will elevate your scheme in a flash.

For anyone looking to take on more than a quick update, this issue (page 137), we were welcomed into three beautiful dream homes that are sure to inspire: a new build, a renovation and a gorgeous decorative makeover. We love the stories behind a home's creation as much as the house tour itself, so each of the owners has shared their vision, journey, and lessons learnt along the way. They prove that yes, a new build is the ultimate way to create precisely what you want. Yes, you can rethink the space you already have so you can improve and not move. And yes, you can make a big impact purely with decorative updates. That's a win-win-win to me.

Elle Lovelock

ELLE LOVELOCK, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Get in touch with me on Instagram @ellelovelock

Beautiful buys **Here's what I'm coveting and buying this month**

These 'Pomponette' eggcups are perfect for Easter. $99 for two, Maison Balzac.

I love a wide stripe. Portobello Stripe linen napkins, $80 for four. Long Lunch Linen.

Spread the word: this iconic stand mixer's colour of 2025 is Butter! $1049, Kitchenaid.

Atelier des Fleurs
Atelier des Fleurs
Atelier des Fleurs

Chloe's Atelier des Fleurs range now includes hand creams, $65 each, Myer.

PHOTOGRAPHY (PORTRAIT) ALANA LANDSBERRY

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Featuring Elysian Minimal Mixer & Spout Set in Brushed Copper, and Zuri Round Undercounter Basin in Matte White.

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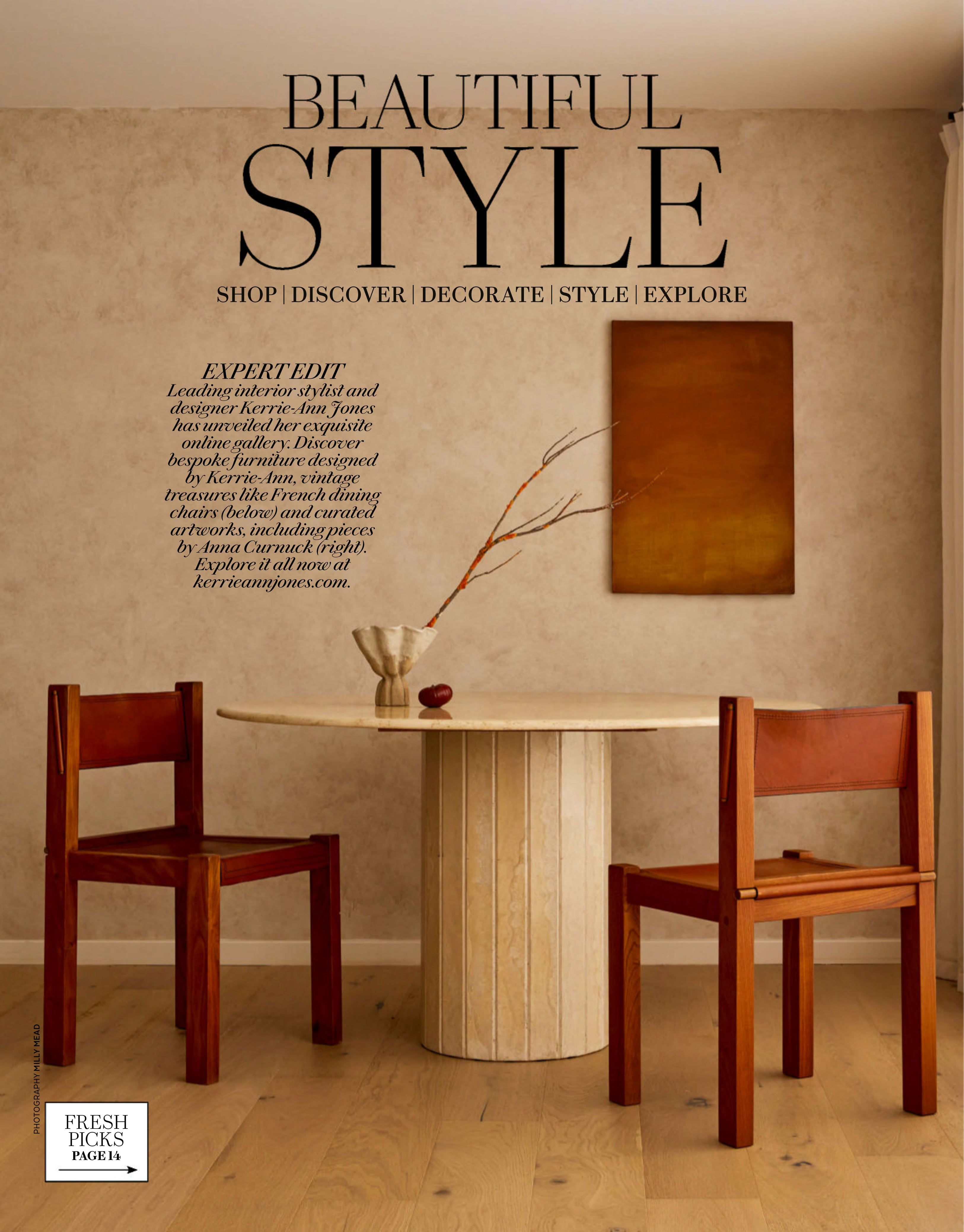
BEAUTIFUL STYLE

SHOP | DISCOVER | DECORATE | STYLE | EXPLORE



EXPERT EDIT

Leading interior stylist and designer Kerrie-Ann Jones has unveiled her exquisite online gallery. Discover bespoke furniture designed by Kerrie-Ann, vintage treasures like French dining chairs (below) and curated artworks, including pieces by Anna Curnuck (right). Explore it all now at kerrieannjones.com.

PHOTOGRAPHY MILLY MEAD

FRESH PICKS
PAGE 14
→

Feels like home

A new wave of beautiful homewares has blown into Country Road. From stoneware mugs to cotton bedlinen, the pieces celebrate life's simple pleasures. They've introduced the 'Stakk' dining range (pictured), available as a 16-piece set in Natural and Snow, $279. Go to countryroad.com.au.

What's hot

FRESH PICKS

The latest decor drops, noteworthy openings and beautiful buys

EDITED BY ALICE IERACE & REBECCA HOOTON

STAR POWER

INTERIOR DESIGNER BRIGETTE ROMANEK IS KNOWN FOR ELEVATING THE HOMES OF CELEBS SUCH AS GWYNETH PALTROW. NOW, SHE HAS A HOMEWARES LINE WITH OUR PLACE. WE ADORE THE POT AND PAN IN ESPRESSO (LEFT). FIND THEM AT FROMOURPLACE.COM/EN-AU.

MASTER STROKE

Introducing Pietra by Greg Natale – a new collection of designer decor that launched in February 2025. This sophisticated range harmoniously blends organic lines with geometric shapes. Shop the range in-store and online at Greg Natale and David Jones.

Welcome to
THE MAKERS & SHAKERS MARKET

Save the date

The Makers & Shakers Market is returning to the Royal Exhibition Building in Melbourne on April 5–6. Get all the details at themakersandshakers.com.au/melbourne.

ARTY PARTY

IN A COLOURFUL COLLABORATION, LONDON-BASED SWEDISH ARTIST PETRA BÖRNER HAS TEAMED UP WITH MARIMEKKO FOR A SPECIAL 'ARTIST SERIES' COLLECTION. FROM BAGS AND FASHION TO HOME DECOR, EACH PIECE SHOWCASES PETRA'S VIBRANT, JOY-INFUSED ARTWORKS. PERFECT FOR ADDING A SPLASH OF WHIMSY TO YOUR DINING TABLE, EXPLORE THE COLLECTION AT MARIMEKKO.COM.

SURREAL APPEAL

Inspired by the charm of a Spanish fishing village and the surreal genius of Salvador Dalí, Maison Balzac's 2025 collection is a fanciful delight. Picture swan cocktail napkins, $119 (set of four), and a blue grouper serving platter, $89, alongside other unexpected pieces. Discover them at maisonbalzac.com.

DREAM BIG

Embrace the cooler months with a dash of charm, thanks to Sheridan's 'In Balance' collection. Snuggle-worthy bedding to toasty bath essentials, this range brings cosy prints and mood-lifting hues into your home. Dive right in at sheridan.com.au.

5 minutes with...

SAARDÉ'S CO-FOUNDERS

Can you tell us a bit about Saardé? *Shenol and Verity Kizek (pictured above): "Founded in Sydney, we design quality goods for home, senses and self that bring simple pleasure. Every product is formulated by our team."*

What are your most popular products? *"Since the beginning of Saardé, our bathroom and body collections have been cherished by our customers. The velvet cushions are also much-loved, thanks to their beautiful quality."*

What backgrounds do you bring to the brand? *"Verity studied graphic design and uses her creativity to design products, shape our artistic direction and develop our signature style. Shenol brings strong business acumen and he also studied perfumery in France, which is how our fragrance collection came about."*

Can you tell us about the interiors in your new store in Sydney's Wunderlich Lane precinct? *"The space initially attracted us with its soaring ceilings and vast arched windows. We designed it with an earthy palette and textured materials. Soft linen drapery and delicate mother of pearl tiles combine with soft lighting for a warm glow."*

The Quattro Stagioni marble basin (above) in Saardé's new Sydney store invites guests to experience the signature olive oil-based body products. Visit saarde.com for more details.

PHOTOGRAPHY (PIETRA BY GREG NATALE) **ANSON SMART** (SAARDÉ) **BILL CHEN** STYLING (PIETRA BY GREG NATALE) **JOSEPH GARDNER**

AT A GLANCE

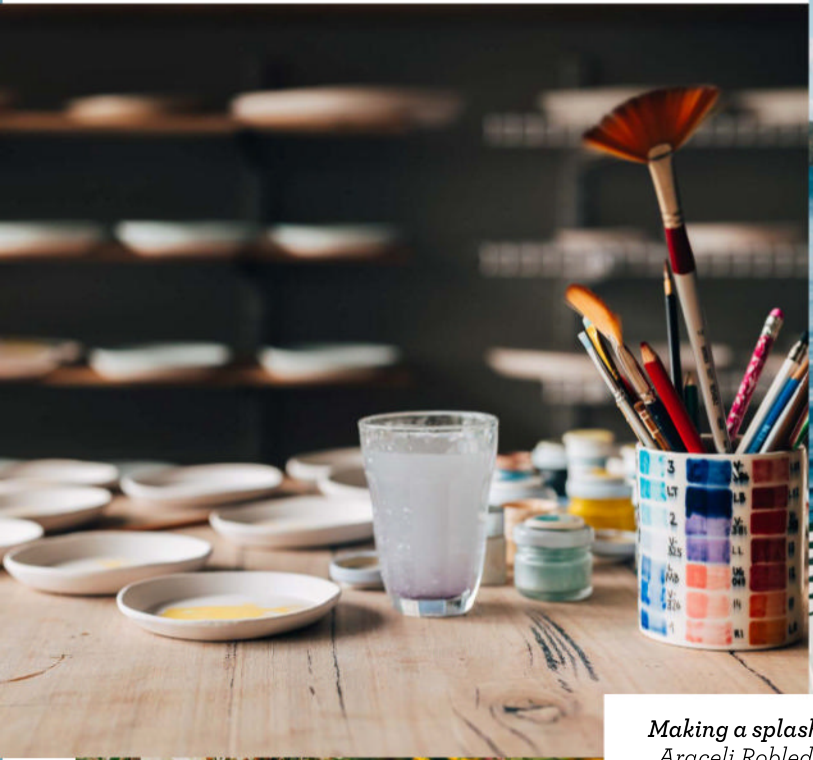
Who: *Araceli Robledo Adams, ceramicist behind Casa Adams Fine Wares.*
What she does: *Creates porcelain pieces painted with marine wildlife.*
Where: *From her studio in Dulwich Hill, Sydney.*
Why she does it: *"To ignite curiosity about marine wildlife and inspire conservation efforts."*
Visit: *casaadams.net, @araceli_adams*

Creative collection

FISH OUT OF WATER

Ceramicist Araceli Robledo Adams brings the underwater world to life with Casa Adams, her collection of handmade porcelain treasures

STORY **REBECCA HOOTON** | PHOTOGRAPHY **FLORE VALLERY-RADOT**



Making a splash *Ceramic artist Araceli Robledo Adams holds a blue swimmer crab platter (opposite) after a firing in the kiln at her home studio. Each piece is hand-painted (top left & bottom right) to depict marine life then glazed. This interest was born from adventures at Lake Macquarie (top right & bottom left), where her husband Dominic grew up and they enjoy visiting family.* >

Picture an emperor angelfish, a blue swimmer crab and a rock lobster gliding gracefully across exquisite ceramic plates and platters. These vibrant creations, crafted by Araceli Robledo Adams, come to life with detailed brush strokes. Twice fired in the kiln and tucked into gift boxes, they're ready to swim into their new homes.

"For me, the idea that someone could turn art into a career was totally normal," reflects Araceli, who grew up between Spain and Australia. Her father, an artist, and her endlessly supportive mother, nurtured her creative streak – and that of her three siblings – with boundless enthusiasm. "They would always point out beauty wherever they saw it," she recalls.

It wasn't a straight line to ceramics. After a master's in marketing and 15 years in the corporate world, a love for clay pulled her in another direction. "While living in Canada, I took an introductory ceramics course, then did a porcelain masterclass at Greenwich House Pottery in NYC," she says. Back in Australia, she pursued a Diploma of Ceramics at TAFE while working full-time.

Her creative breakthrough came in the bleary-eyed midst of early motherhood, crafting ceramics during nap times. "I did a few sales on Facebook, and they always went well," Araceli shares. By 2021, she left the corporate world to focus on Casa Adams. Her first exhibition, *Underwater Sydney*, cemented her place in the art world. "Things really clicked when I started focusing on marine wildlife," she explains. This was influenced by time spent at her in-laws' property on Lake Macquarie.

Of course, working with ceramics isn't all smooth sailing. Kilns can be unpredictable. "I allow for small imperfections in my pieces, but sometimes they're just unusable," she says.

Her Sydney studio is a labour of love. Designed by Alexander Symes Architects, it features solar-powered kilns and repurposed materials, surrounded by a lush garden. The space, shared with her husband, is "full of life", Araceli says.

The studio also hosts Art & Natural History Masterclasses, blending underglaze painting and marine education. "Participants paint one of my handmade pieces, and sometimes a marine biologist or ecologist joins to share fascinating facts," she says. It's a lot to organise, but always worth it.

When not teaching, Araceli's days revolve around making, painting and glazing – often well into the evening. The response to the pieces is reward in itself. "Connecting with people with a shared passion for marine life is very special," she says. And just like that, a plate becomes more than a plate – it's a love letter to the ocean, a story in clay and colour. HB

Catch of the clay *A school of juvenile boxfish begin to take their positions on small plates (top left), while the remarkable final results are set on a table at Lake Macquarie (left & opposite) among other aquatic friends such as fish and crustaceans.*

"My journey of discovering our beautiful underwater creatures definitely opened doors" **ARACELI**

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PHOTOGRAPHY GEORGINA EDEN

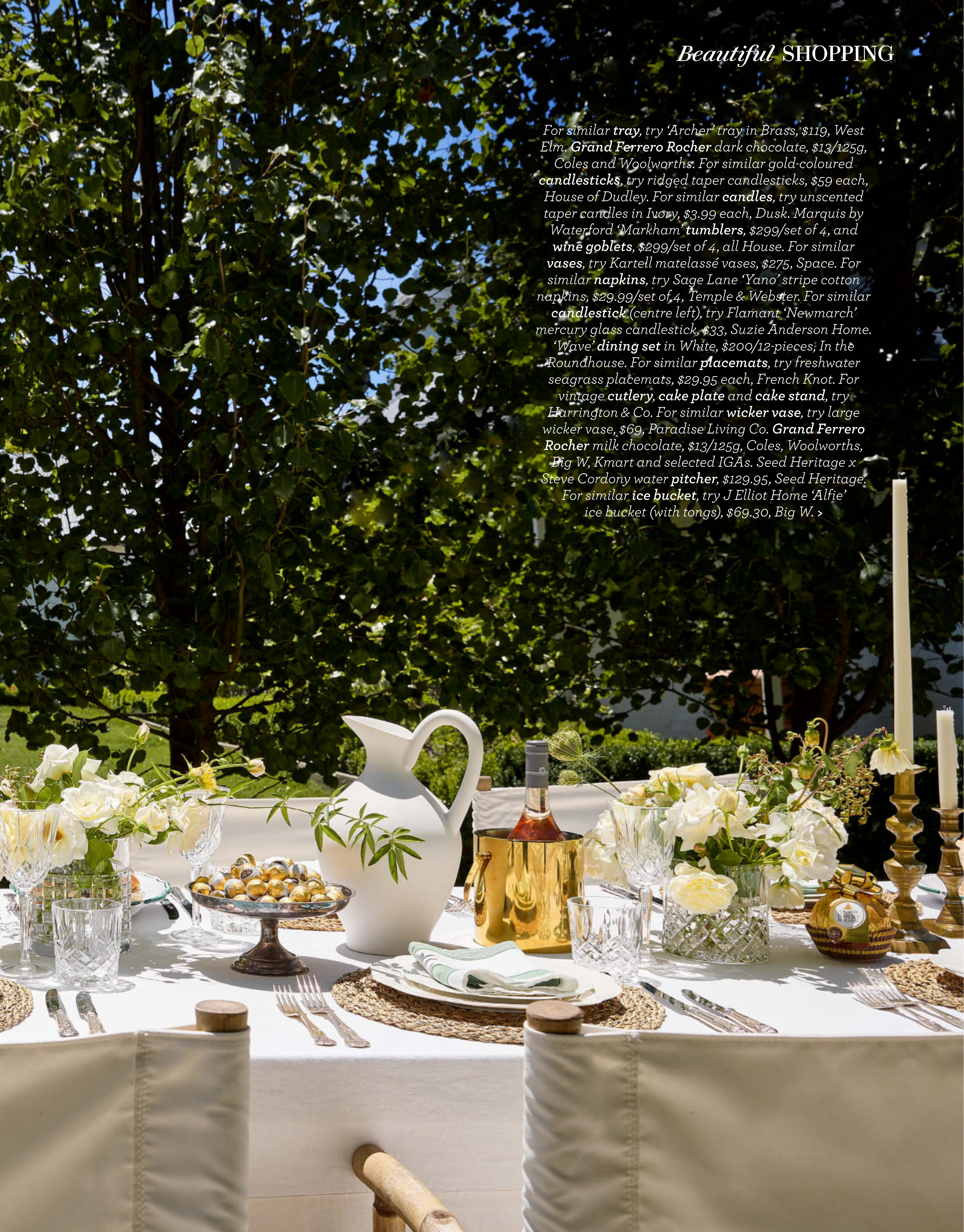
EASTER
ELEGANCE
PAGE 22 →

Easter elegance

Interior stylist Steve Cordony sets an exquisite table to inspire your celebrations, with earthy tones and metallic accents

STYLING **STEVE CORDONY** | PHOTOGRAPHY **GEORGINA EDEN**

> “ELEVATE THE TABLESCAPE WITH FORMAL LINEN, SILVERWARE AND GARDEN ROSES”
>
> **STEVE**



*For similar **tray**, try 'Archer' tray in Brass, $119, West Elm. **Grand Ferrero Rocher** dark chocolate, $13/125g, Coles and Woolworths. For similar gold-coloured **candlesticks**, try ridged taper candlesticks, $59 each, House of Dudley. For similar **candles**, try unscented taper candles in Ivory, $3.99 each, Dusk. Marquis by Waterford 'Markham' **tumblers**, $299/set of 4, and **wine goblets**, $299/set of 4, all House. For similar **vases**, try Kartell matelassé vases, $275, Space. For similar **napkins**, try Sage Lane 'Yano' stripe cotton napkins, $29.99/set of 4, Temple & Webster. For similar **candlestick** (centre left), try Flamant 'Newmarch' mercury glass candlestick, $33, Suzie Anderson Home. 'Wave' **dining set** in White, $200/12-pieces, In the Roundhouse. For similar **placemats**, try freshwater seagrass placemats, $29.95 each, French Knot. For vintage **cutlery**, **cake plate** and **cake stand**, try Harrington & Co. For similar **wicker vase**, try large wicker vase, $69, Paradise Living Co. **Grand Ferrero Rocher** milk chocolate, $13/125g, Coles, Woolworths, Big W, Kmart and selected IGAs. Seed Heritage x Steve Cordony water **pitcher**, $129.95, Seed Heritage. For similar **ice bucket**, try J Elliot Home 'Alfie' ice bucket (with tongs), $69.30, Big W.* >

This page *For a similar* ***platter*** *(with hot cross buns), try 'Capri' dinner plate in Green, $33, No. 22. Ferrero Collection* ***Hazelnut easter eggs****, $8/100g, Woolworths, Coles, Big W and selected IGAs. All other products as before.* ***Opposite*** *For similar* ***chairs****, try folding director's chairs, $193.99/set of 2, Vidaxl. For similar* ***table****, try 'Parklo' reclaimed elm timber farmhouse dining table, $1669, Living Styles. For similar* ***tablecloth****, try French flax linen tablecloth in Milk, $145/small, I Love Linen.* HB

“I ALWAYS ADD
A METALLIC ACCENT TO
CONTRAST THE MORE
EARTHY ELEMENTS
OF A TABLE” **STEVE**

FURNITURE
CITY HOUSES

THE ESSENTIALS: WHITE SOFA

A CLASSIC PIECE TO SUIT ANY INTERIOR STYLE – HERE'S OUR TOP-FIVE EDIT OF THE BEST

Selecting the basics for your living spaces is a fun process, but you often have to make decisions on the fly, because you're either replacing something that's damaged, has seen its last legs or you're moving into a new home. Not everyone has the luxury of time to deliberate. Enter our new series 'The Essentials', where we search high and low to bring our considered selection of five products at different price points to help you narrow down your search. This month, we're focusing on the classic white sofa – a versatile interior staple. You can dress it up with cushions to suit your aesthetic; keep it pared-back for a contemporary home, layer with pattern for a traditional look, or pair with the warm tones of natural timber and textiles in country or coastal abodes. And if you've got pets or kids, consider slipcovers, which are easy to throw in the wash. HB

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STYLING (THIS PAGE) **TESS NEWMAN-MORRIS** (OPPOSITE) KYLIE JACKES

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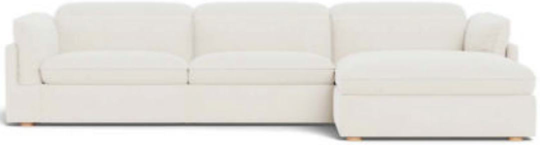

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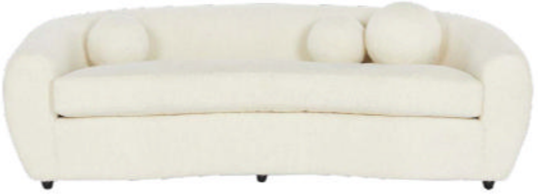

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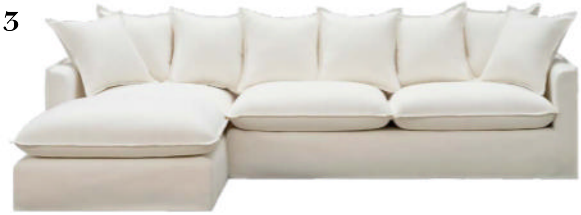

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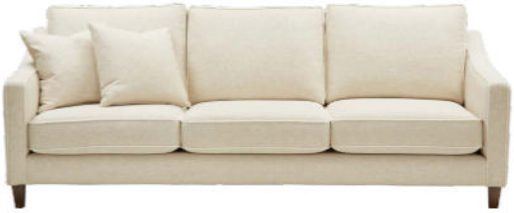

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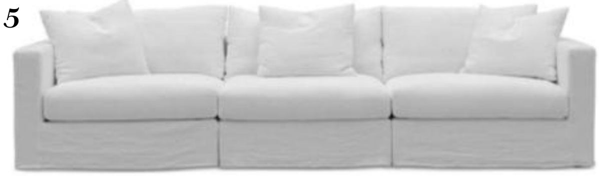
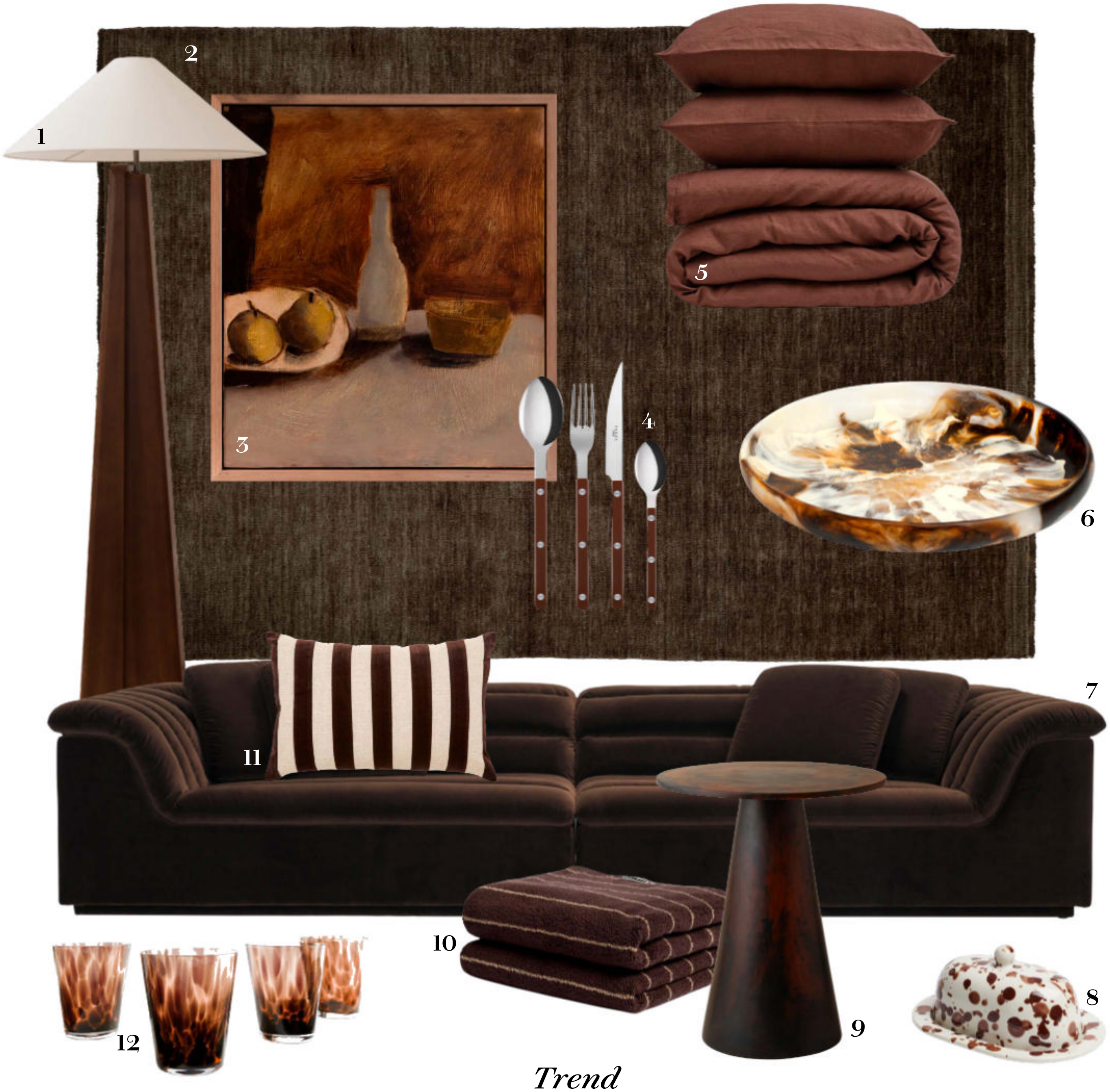


5 of the best WHITE SOFAS

__1.__ 'Sorrento' fabric electric recliner modular __sofa__ in Washed Canvas Ivory, $4799, Freedom. __2.__ 'Atelier' 2.5-seater __sofa__ in Soliel Sheepskin in Ivory, $5795, Coco Republic. __3.__ Ode Design 'Juno' slipcover 4-seater chaise __sofa__ in Luna in Ivory, $2499, RJ Living. __4.__ 'Windsor' 3.5-seater __sofa__ in Warwick Axiom in Snow, $6700, Molmic. __5.__ 'Beach Club Johnson' 3-piece modular __sofa__ in Casper, $3385, MCM House.



Trend

HOT CHOCOLATE

Cross over to the dark side with these delectable designs and cocoa-hued homewares

COMPILED BY ALICE IERACE

1. 'Felix' ***floor lamp****, $1299, McMullin.* ***2.*** *'Silvio'* ***rug*** *in Dovecote, $1399/3m x 2m, Weave Home.* ***3.*** *'Pears and Blue Bottle'* ***artwork*** *by Stacey McCall, $950/28.5cm x 25.5cm (framed), Michael Reid Southern Highlands.* ***4.*** *Sabre Paris 'Bistrot'* ***cutlery*** *in Chocolate Brown, $78/4-piece set, Civil Dawn Studio.* ***5.*** *Linen* ***duvet set*** *in Chocolate, $385/queen, Carlotta + Gee.* ***6.*** *'Grand Earth'* ***bowl*** *in Light Horn, $480, Dinosaur Designs.* ***7.*** *'Float' 4-seat* ***sofa*** *in Avalon Piccolo, $6999, Ellison Studios.* ***8.*** *Stoneware* ***butter dish****, $34.99, H&M.* ***9.*** *'Flow Structured'* ***side table*** *in Earth, $890, Saardé.* ***10.*** *'Pinstripe'* ***hand towels*** *in Espresso, $49/set of 2, Hommey.* ***11.*** *'Etro' velvet* ***cushion*** *in Chocolate, $114, L&M Home.* ***12.*** *'Double Old Fashioned'* ***tumblers*** *in Tortoiseshell, $99/set of 4, Pottery Barn.*

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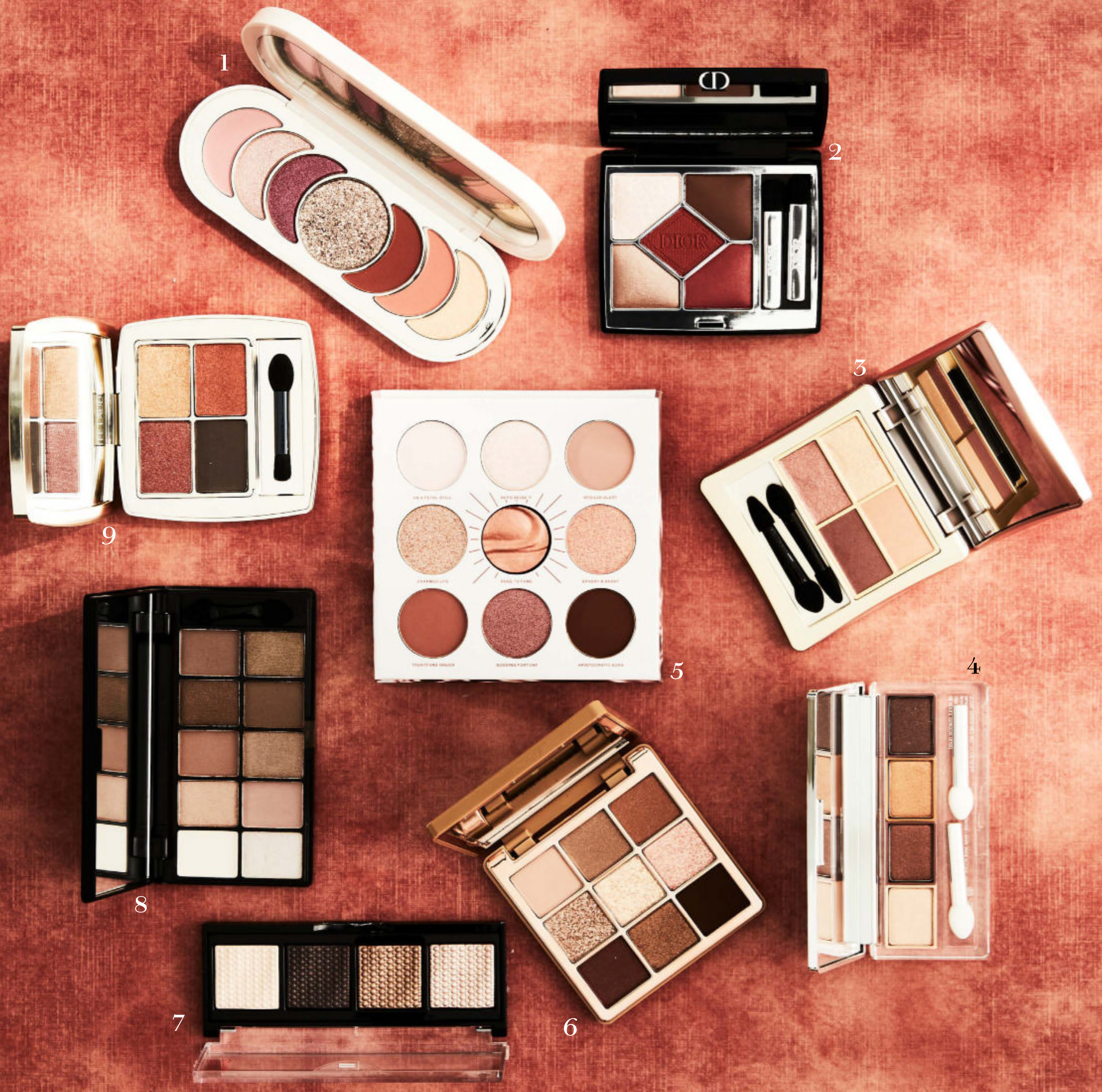
Beauty

ROSY GLOW

Sweep a hint of blush over your lids with these romantic eyeshadow palettes that will carry you from day to night

STYLING KATRINA YAXLEY | PHOTOGRAPHY KRISTINA ŠOLJO



1. Rare Beauty 'Discovery' eyeshadow palette in Give Yourself Grace, $50, Sephora. 2. Dior 'Diorshow 5 Couleurs' eye palette in Red Tartan, $120, David Jones. 3. Elizabeth Arden eyeshadow quad in Desert Nudes, $70, Myer. 4. 'All About Shadow Quad' in Morning Java Shimmer, $75, Clinique. 5. Morphe '9 Pan Artistry Palette' in Rose to Fame, $23, Mecca. 6. Mini eyeshadow palette in Spice, $55, Anastasia Beverly Hills. 7. Revlon 'So Fierce Prismatic Eyeshadow Palette' in That's a Dub, $24.95, Myer. 8. MP Cosmetics eyeshadow palette in The New Nudes, $18, Priceline. 9. 'Pure Color Envy Luxe Eyeshadow Quad' in Wild Earth, $105, Estee Lauder.

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Everybody has different preferences when it comes to a good night's sleep. Exclusive to Domayne, the Dunlopillo by SleepMaker 'Hayman Plush' Mattress features a five-zoned, high-definition micro-pocket coil system that offers targeted support and pressure relief while you sleep. In addition, this network of mini pocket coils will keep you cool and supported throughout the night so you wake up refreshed, re-energised and ready for the day. Boasting both innovative KulKote temperature regulation technology and copper-infused comfort foam that absorbs and releases heat to provide dynamic thermal control, the Dunlopillo mattress comes in four levels: Super Firm, Firm, Medium and Plush. Finally, cashmere fibres provide a smooth, breathable touch.

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Beneath the mattress, there's even more choice with the support of the 'Delta Wave' Adjustable Base. Fully upholstered in polyester fabric, it provides great strength and stability, while the adjustable back and foot ends aim to give pain relief by alleviating pressure points. Select the optimal position for how you're feeling, from lifted and supported to zero gravity and relaxed, then drift off in ultimate comfort.

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AUSTRALIAN MADE

DUNLOPILLO BY SLEEPMAKER 'HAYMAN' PLUSH QUEEN MATTRESS $4599; DUNLOPILLO 'DELTA WAVE' QUEEN ADJUSTABLE BASE $999; SLEEPMAKER 'TENCEL' COPPER INFUSED MEMORY FOAM PILLOW MEDIUM $215EA; 'COCO' FLUTED BLACK BEDSIDE TABLE $799EA; 'WAVE' LOW KHAKI VASE $79; 'MILES DOME' MARBLE TABLE LAMP $299; 'DURHAM' SULPHUR CUSHION (50X50CM) $59; 'CECIL' TERRACOTTA CUSHION (50X50CM) $69; CÔTE NOIRE 'ART DECO' BLONDE VANILLA CANDLE (200G) $59.95; AURA 'WAFFLE' CLOVE THROW (140X200CM) $169; 'LUCAS' GREY RIBBED PLANTER (LARGE) $189; 'RODERICK' IVORY RUG EXTRA LARGE (230X330CM) $1449.

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the high-definition
micro-pocket
coil system.

Don't compromise on mattress position, thanks to A.H. Beard's innovative Split Head system.

A.H.BEARD
NATURE'S REST
Birch
Comfort/Support

Partners in comfort

There's no need to compromise on comfort and sleep preferences, courtesy of the A.H. Beard 'Birch' Split Head Mattress. Exclusive to Domayne, the range is available in King or Queen sizes along with stylish Split Head Sheet Sets and Mattress Protectors to fit. When you select from the Birch range, you can specify your firmness level – Medium/Plush or Firm – for each side of the mattress. And once you're installed in the bedroom, you and your partner can select separate elevation options for the head section while keeping the rest of the sleep surface united. Position yourself according to your individual needs, ensuring a great night's sleep on both sides of the bed. The Talalay Latex Support Core provides support throughout the night, as well as pressure-relief comfort and minimum motion transfer, so you can roll over without disturbing your partner. Your rest is further enhanced by the Talalay Comfort Layer, boasting naturally hypoallergenic and antimicrobial breathability.

Adaptive support

Teamed with the 'Renew' Adjustable Base, this system features three preset positions and a memory button, making it easier than ever to set yourself up for a restful and rejuvenating night. Select from one of the pre-programmed options, or take control and personalise your bedding settings as required. And if you're not quite ready to nod off, you can also position your mattress to watch TV or read.

A.H.BEARD
PREMIUM SLEEP SINCE 1899

AUSTRALIAN MADE AND OWNED

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Smartex: smart sleep

Providing the ultimate in personalisation, the Sealy 'Acclaim' Ultra Mattress, exclusive to Domayne, also boasts Smartex technology that draws away moisture and regulates temperature while you sleep, as well as cushioning quilt foam and a network of coils that sense and respond to your movements, reducing pressure on your back and working to align your body in its natural posture. Whether you're reading in bed, catching up on emails or preparing to drift off to sleep, this Sealy Posturepedic system is ready to accommodate your needs in any given moment. With the touch of a button, you can provide your body with the support it needs to be comfortable in any situation.

A new angle of comfort

Select from a range of angles and positions with the independently mobile head, middle and foot sections of the 'Ascent' Queen Adjustable Base. Built with shock-absorbing, low-profile DuraFlex modules to ensure long-lasting comfort, this base also comes with dual massage functionality, underbed lighting and fast-charge USB ports for your devices.

Sealy Posturepedic

AUSTRALIAN MADE AND OWNED

SEALY POSTUREPEDIC 'ACCLAIM' DESTINY SILK ULTRA PLUSH QUEEN MATTRESS $2899; 'ASCENT' QUEEN ADJUSTABLE BASE $2399; SEALY 'OPTIMAL COMFORT' CONTOUR PILLOWS $179EA; 'MONTAUK' 1-DRAWER BEDSIDE TABLE SMALL $1159EA; 'CENZO' CYLINDER POT (TALL) $329, (SHORT) $220; CÔTE NOIRE 'GOLD BADGE' FRENCH MORNING TEA DIFFUSER (150ML) $55; KAS 'LEONA' CUSHION IN WATTLE (50X50CM) $69; EADIE LIFESTYLE 'ELEMENT' CUSHION IN GREEN (50X50CM) $129; 'AURA' WAFFLE CAPER THROW (140X200CM) $169; 'THEODORE' FLOOR LAMP $479; 'ARCH' LARGE VASE $59; 'MINX' CERAMIC WHITE QUILTED VASE (SMALL) $59; ROBERT GORDON 'SPECKLE' TABLE OF PLENTY BOWL $74; 'PERLA' BLUSH RUG WITH FRINGE LARGE (200X290CM) $599.

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BEAUTIFUL HOMES

THE STORIES, STYLE AND LOVE THAT MAKE A HOME BEAUTIFUL

PHOTOGRAPHY LOUISE ROCHE STYLING KYLIE JACKES

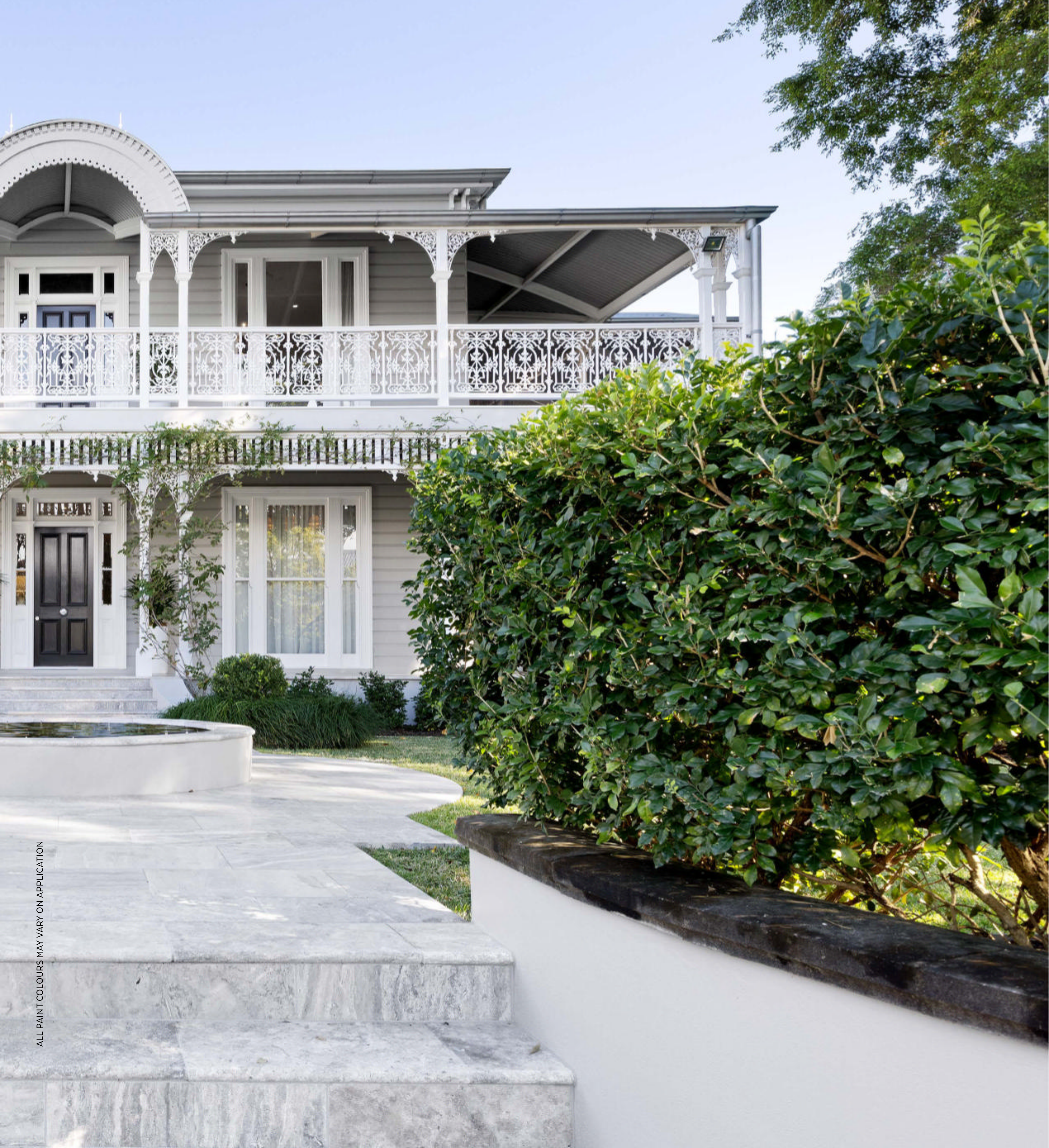
TIMELESS LOVE
PAGE 44 →

TIMELESS LOVE

A renovated, iconic property in Brisbane beautifully and skillfully balances classic grandeur with contemporary liveability

STORY & STYLING **KYLIE JACKES** | PHOTOGRAPHY **LOUISE ROCHE**

__Heritage hero__ Originally built in the 1890s, this stately old building in Brisbane has been given a new lease on life by Lindar Butler. Although the house was added to the Brisbane City Council Heritage Register just prior to the renovation, it didn't restrict any of the changes, including a new exterior colour scheme in soft Resene Quarter Arrowtown, which complements the original lace balustrading repainted white. Silver travertine, expertly laid by Stellar Tiling Group, spans the lower wrap-around verandah and flows across paths to create an entrance befitting the home. >



ALL PAINT COLOURS MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

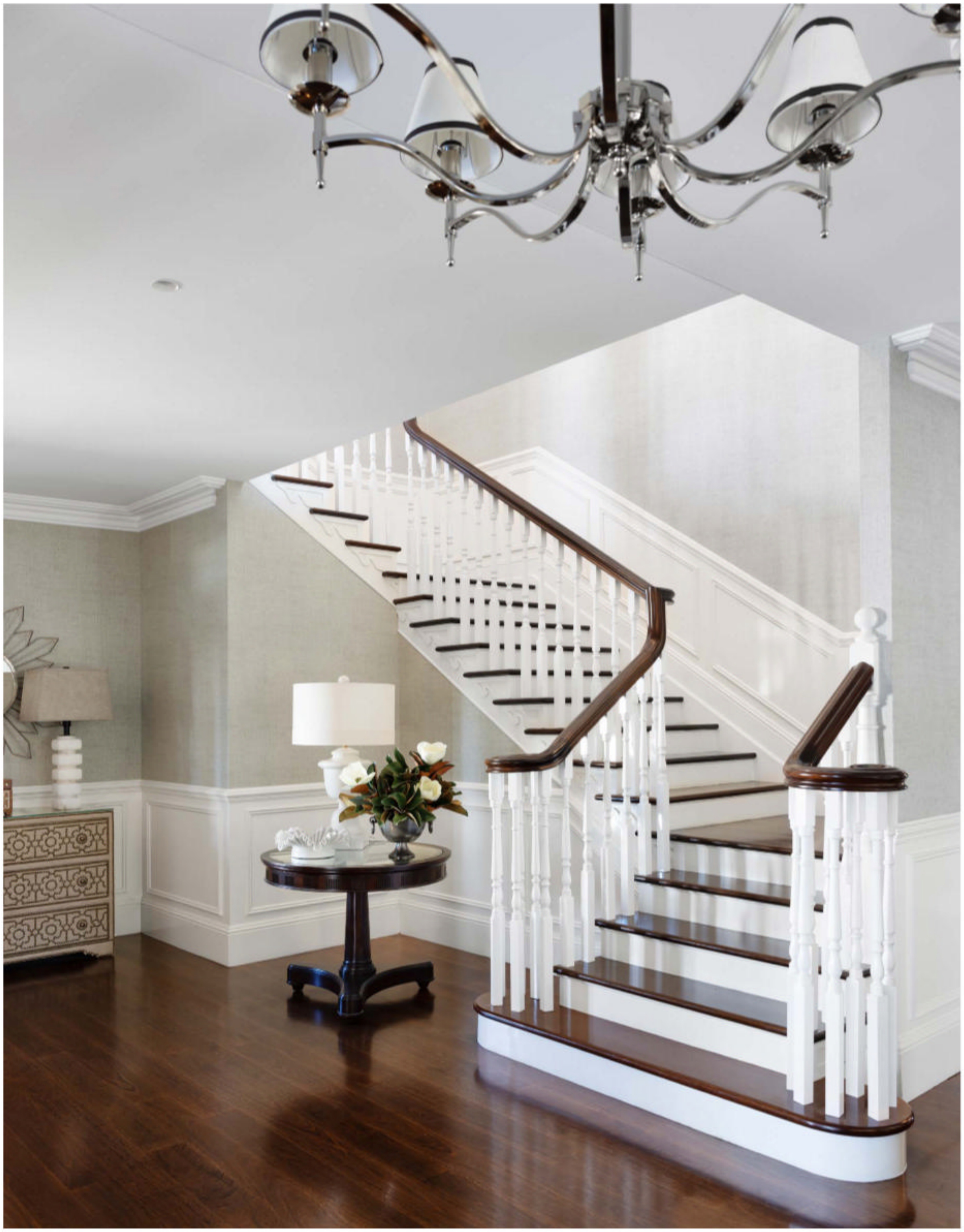
Claiming a coveted clifftop spot, heads often turn to check out Rockfield, a late Victorian-era home perched on a sizeable slice of land in inner city Brisbane. For years it had piqued Lindar's interest on her commute to work and when she saw it advertised for sale, curiosity got the better of her. "I had to take a look and when I stepped inside, I got a feeling in the pit of my stomach, 'this is right, this is what I want, how can I make it happen?'" she recalls, of her desire to buy the property 28 years ago.

While the house needed some TLC, Lindar was taken by its incredible location on a quarter acre block, overlooking the Brisbane River and city skyline and saw her role as a custodian as she set about reinstating its heritage charm. "When I began master planning the renovation I grew to be fascinated by the story behind the house," she says. "I spent a lot of time at the state library researching its past and discovered Rockfield was originally built for a coal merchant Captain Daniel McGregor, his wife and six children, and records show the first post delivered to the address was in 1892."

Having changed owners numerous times in the century prior to Lindar's custodianship, the house had undergone various interior iterations, yet even shrouded in '70s mission brown, orange lino and laminate, beautiful original features such as VJ walls, timber fretwork breezeways and intricately crafted architraves still shone and captured her imagination.

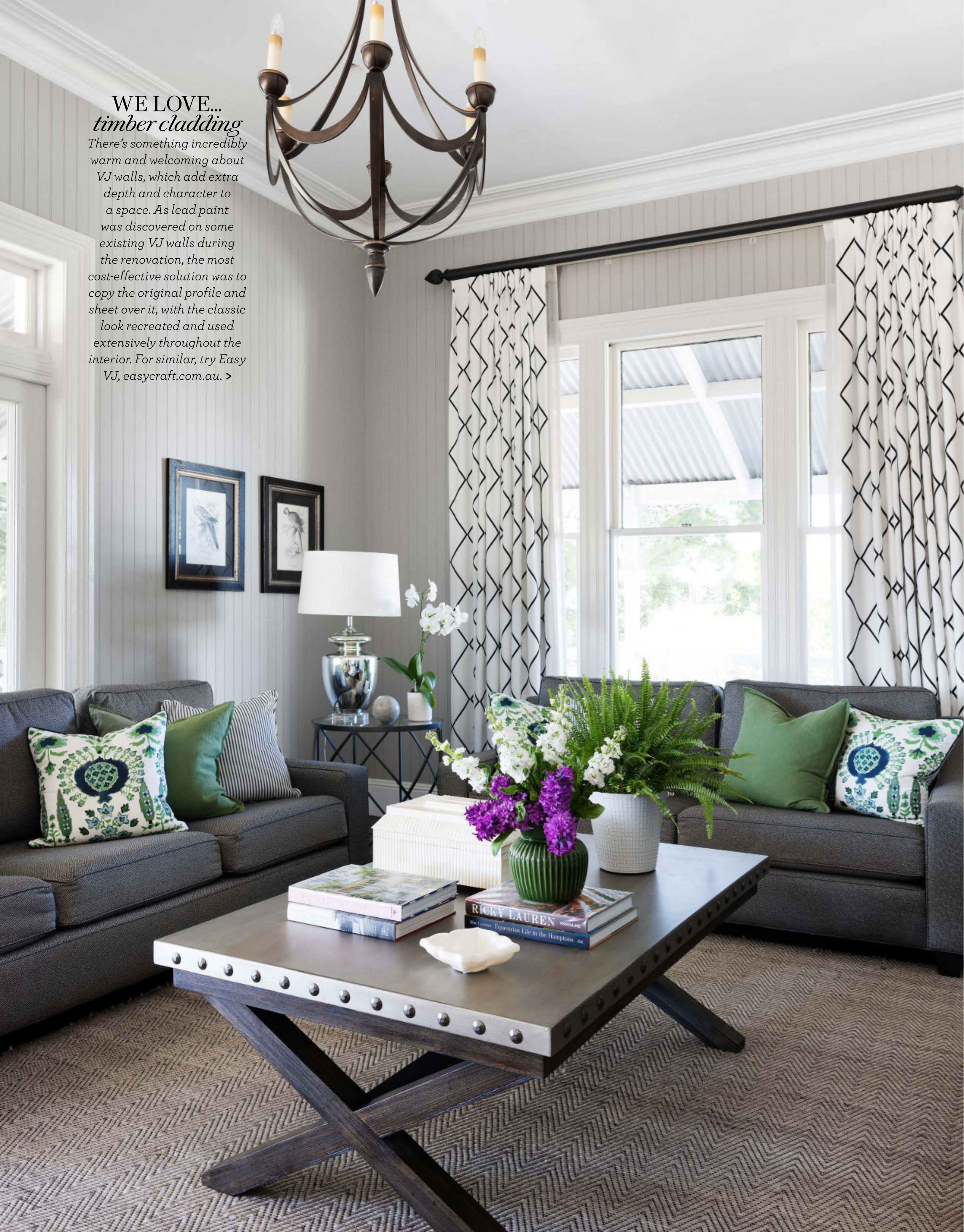
Lindar's vision, plotted and executed over several years, involved an extensive renovation, which celebrated the home's heritage within a more modern, open-plan layout. Ideas were pooled from three architects to create the harmonious blend of classic and contemporary design which encompassed altering the floor plan, extending the wraparound verandah to make the most of sweeping views

Garden *Reimagining the gardens was also key to the home's rejuvenation. Lindar (pictured above) had a clear vision of a classical design in deep shades of green, punctuated by white flowers, perfectly executed by Steven Clegg Design. Beautifully framing the house, box hedges and expanses of manicured lawn envelop the large block, with white-flowering wisteria intertwining with the exterior fretwork.* >



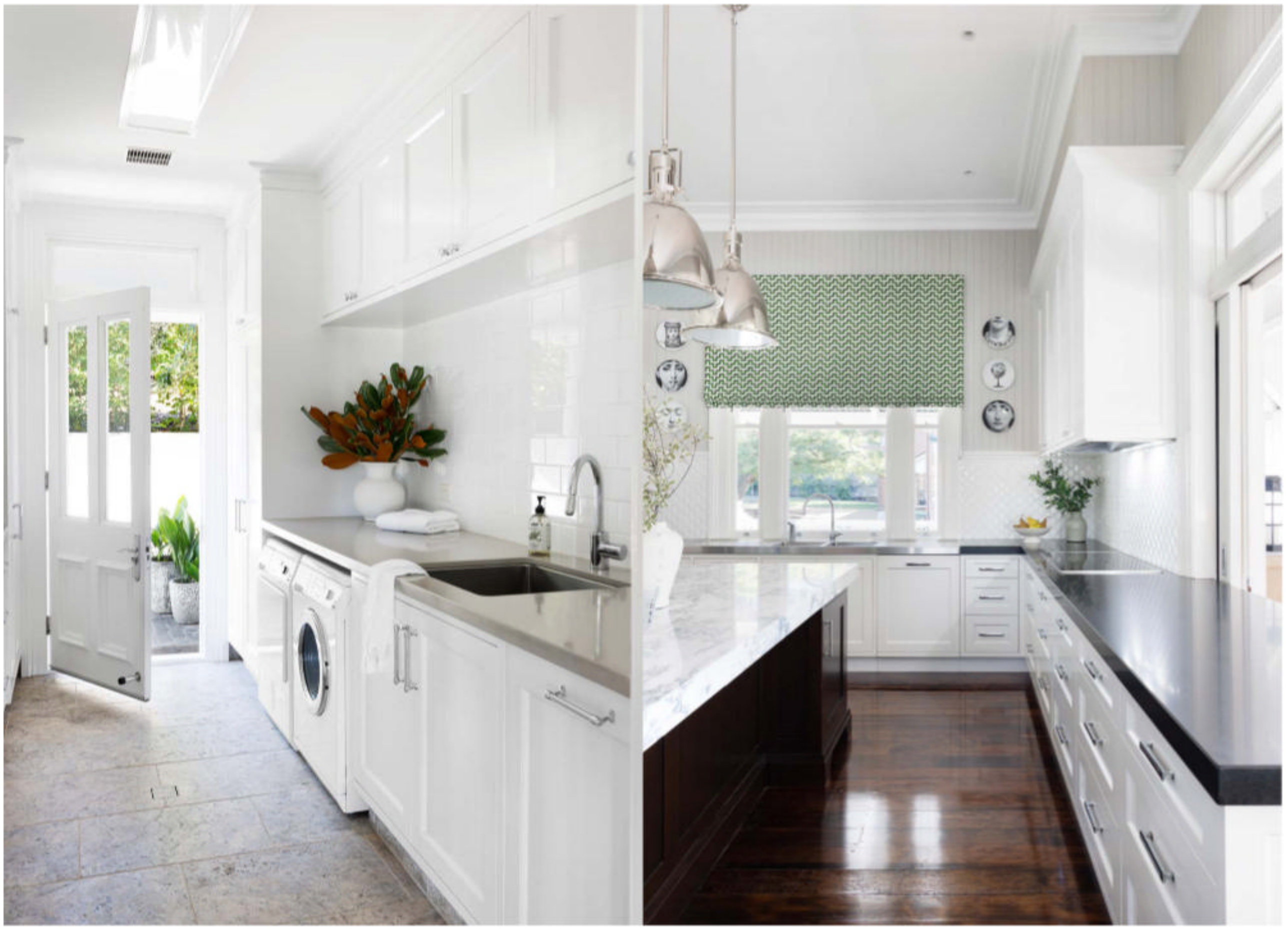
Staircase *A reception area (this page) was created on the new lower level, with materials such as Thibaut 'Bankun Raffia' wallpaper matched to the upper level. Apart from antique pieces, Lindar chose all the furnishings with interior designer Leigh Boswell, such as the timber table topped with a 'Vicenza' lamp and marble ruffle edge fluted bowl from Highgate House. The 'Stanford' chandelier was sourced from Zest Lighting and has custom shades by Highgate House.* **Living** *There are several living areas, yet perhaps the most well used is the space adjacent to the kitchen. Highgate House sofas were chosen for their timeless appeal, as was the Hooker Furniture vintage 'West' X-base coffee table, from Globe Imports paired with a Rug Concepts rug. Cushions from Highgate House.*

ARTWORK ARTISTS UNKNOWN, SUPPLIED BY HIGHGATE HOUSE

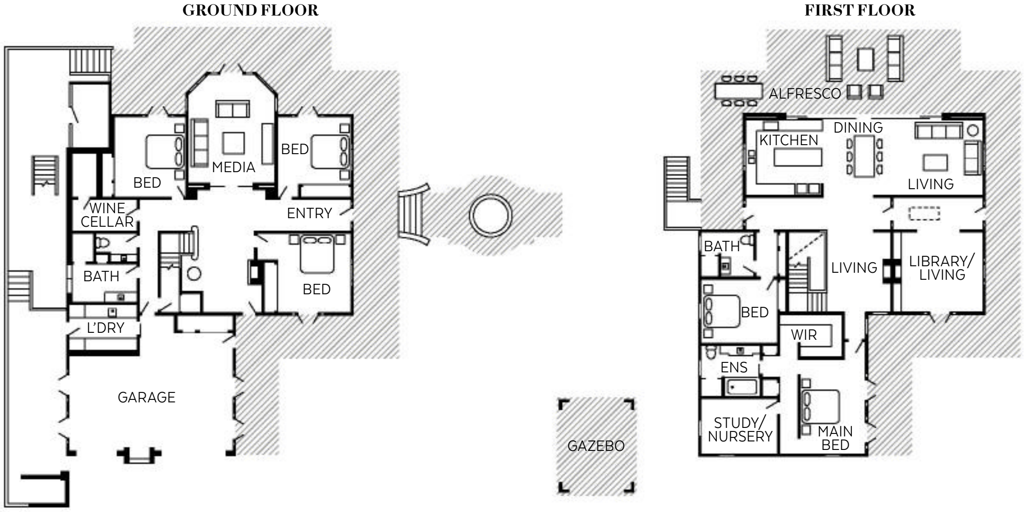


WE LOVE... *timber cladding*

There's something incredibly warm and welcoming about VJ walls, which add extra depth and character to a space. As lead paint was discovered on some existing VJ walls during the renovation, the most cost-effective solution was to copy the original profile and sheet over it, with the classic look recreated and used extensively throughout the interior. For similar, try Easy VJ, easycraft.com.au. >



FLOOR PLAN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BED
WINE CELLAR
ENTRY
BATH
BED
L'DRY
GARAGE
GAZEBO
FIRST FLOOR
ALFRESCO
KITCHEN
DINING
LIVING
BATH
LIVING
LIBRARY/ LIVING
BED
WIR
ENS
STUDY/ NURSERY
MAIN BED

Laundry *The laundry (this page, left) continues the classic grey and white palette with custom cabinetry in Dulux Vivid White, complemented with a Caesarstone benchtop. On the floor, Platinum Silver Travertine from Stone & Tile Studio adds a wonderful textural element.* ***Kitchen*** *Lindar's brief to kitchen design and construction company Wyer + Craw was for solid timber cabinetry in the kitchen (this page, right & opposite). "With all aspects of the house I thought about longevity and the ability to simply repaint quality timber cabinets, if I ever wanted to change the colour down the track, really appealed," she says. VJ walls in Resene Truffle frame the zone, while a decorative custom blind in Duralee fabric injects pattern alongside Fornasetti plates. She opted for a mix of benchtop materials: black granite adorns outer benches, while the island is topped in Arabescato Corchia marble from Project Stone.*

INSIDE STORY
Lindar's home

Who lives here?
Lindar, partnerships manager and her adult children, university students Mackenzie, Stafford and Sienna.

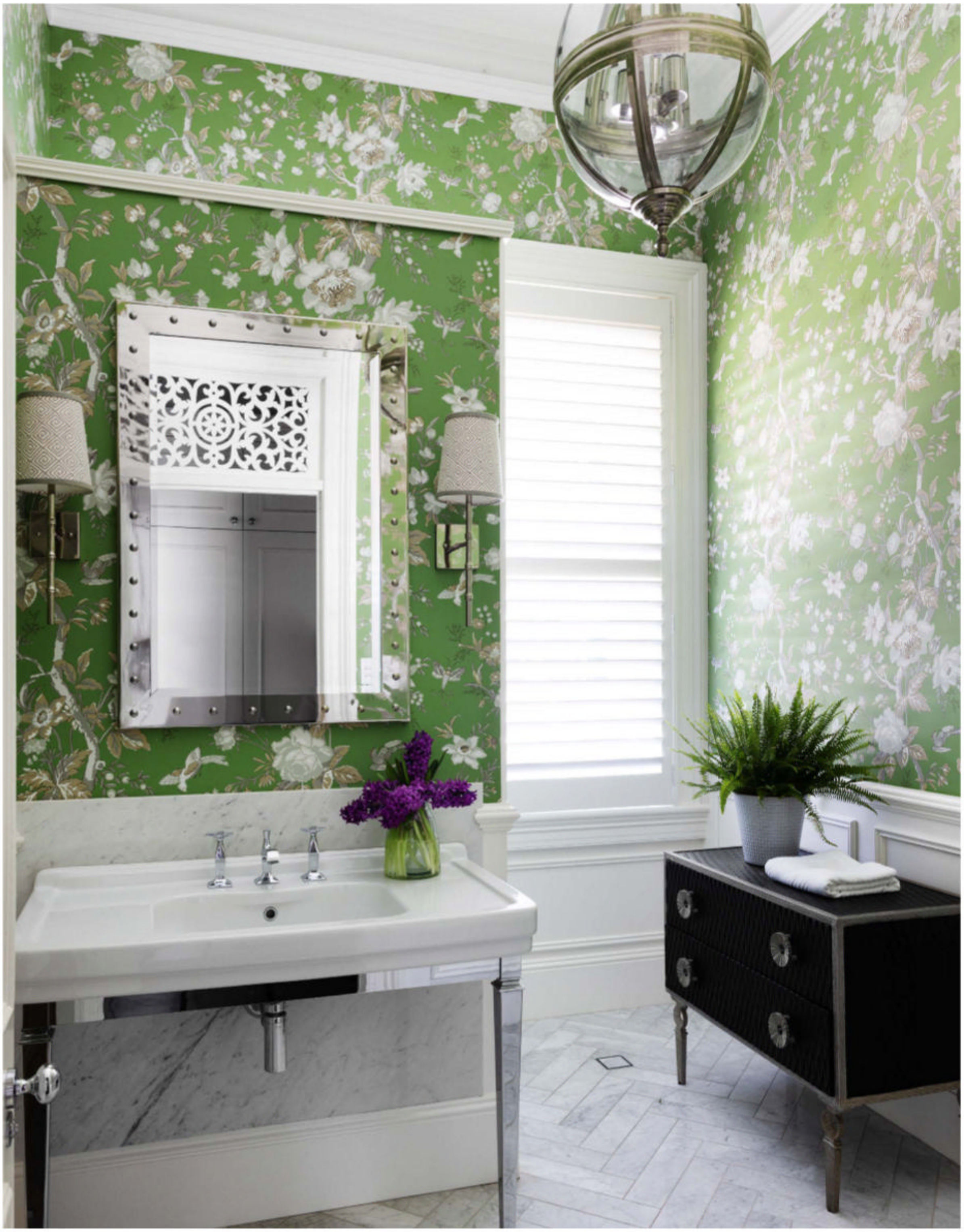
Favourite spot in the house?
"My bedroom, it's a beautiful calm oasis from the goings-on of family life when I need some 'me' time, plus the curtains Leigh recommended are a stunning centrepiece."

Best source of interior inspiration?
"Home Beautiful, of course, Houzz and Highgate House's body of work."

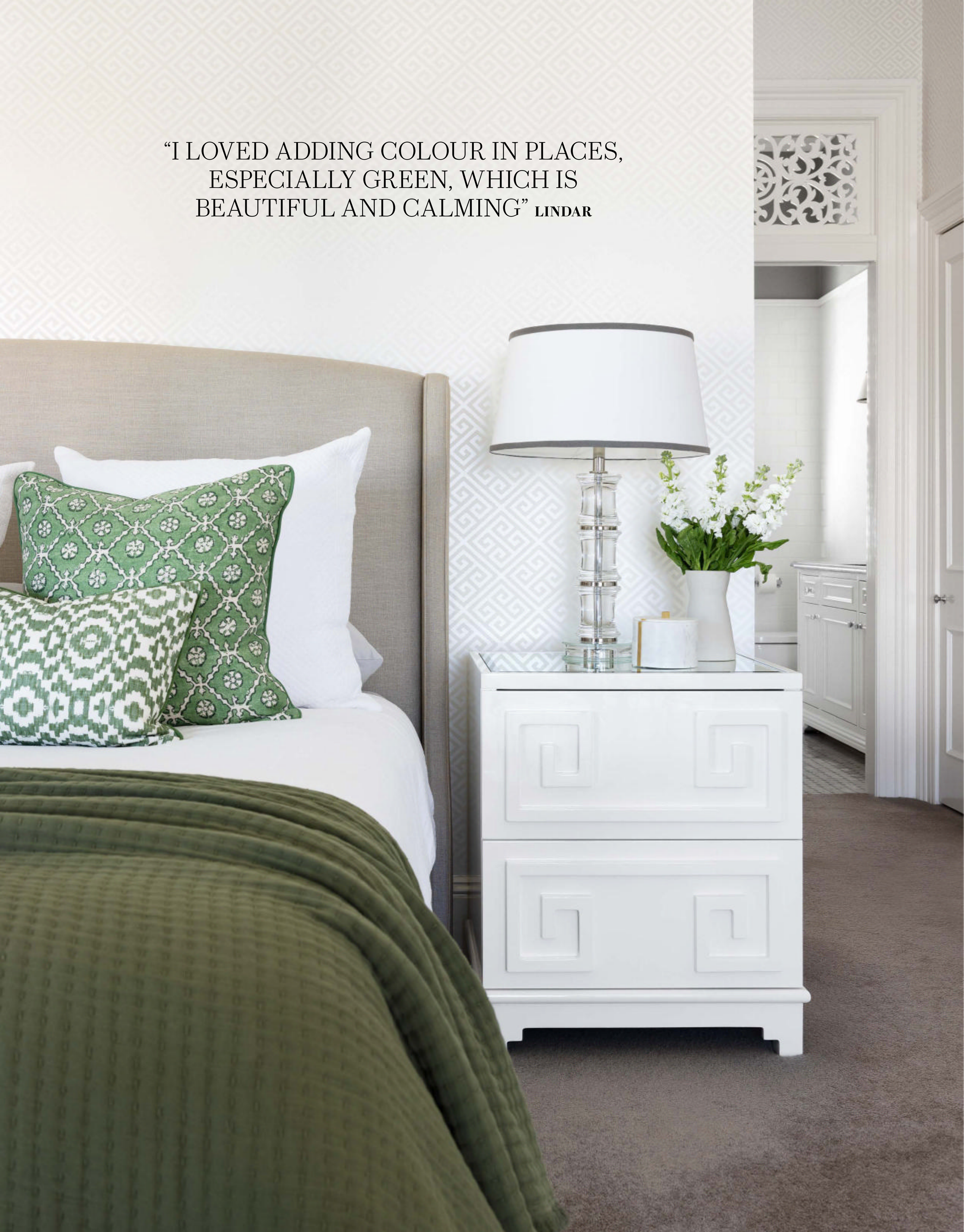
Lessons learnt renovating?
"Trust your instincts. Be bold expressing your personality in the choices you make and have faith in your interior designer. They weave their magic and make your dreams come true." >

“THE HOUSE HAS A SENSE OF QUALITY AND HISTORY THAT I LOVE AS WELL AS STYLE FROM THE LATE VICTORIAN ERA” **LINDAR**

Mackenzie's bedroom *In this space, Thibaut 'Patani' wallpaper in Charcoal sets the scene for a custom bedhead from Highgate House. An Emac & Lawton 'Prescot' chandelier and posters by John Ireland round out the room. Doubling as a study for the university student, a 'Campaign' desk from Xavier Furniture is positioned to take in garden views, with an armchair from Highgate House in the corner.* >



Main bathroom *Walls adorned in Thibaut 'Nemour' wallpaper in Green create an enchanting backdrop in the bathroom (this page), with decorative features such as the Brodware 'Classique' console from Elite Bathware & Tiles. Carrara floor tiles add to the classic feel, as do 'Molly' bamboo wall sconces in Nickel (for similar, try Cromwell) with custom shades from Highgate House. A Cromwell Artisan Chest, sourced through Highgate House, is on the back wall.* **Main bedroom** *Connected to the verandah via French doors, teamed with original soaring ceilings, the main bedroom (opposite) is a tranquil retreat. Highgate House cushions feature on the bed while a timeless Highgate House lamp and bedside table echo the Greek Key pattern in the Thibaut 'Maze' wallpaper.* **>**



“I LOVED ADDING COLOUR IN PLACES, ESPECIALLY GREEN, WHICH IS BEAUTIFUL AND CALMING” **LINDAR**

and building in the undercroft to create extra bedrooms, bathroom, living space, laundry, garage and grand staircase.

Original features were reproduced on the new lower level with turn-of-the-century inspired ceiling roses, classic cornicing and digitised timber cutout breezeway panels added above doors. "Woodworkers duplicated all the original trims and doors in cedar throughout, which were painted white to emphasise the city views and enhance the natural light throughout," says Lindar. The result is a blended upper and lower level, which makes it feel like the home is entirely original.

As a long-time admirer of interior designer Leigh Boswell of Highgate House, Lindar enlisted her expertise to create a look that transcended eras. "I love Leigh's eye for all things classically beautiful and she had wonderful ideas, which at times pushed me out of my comfort zone, in a good way," shares Lindar of the enduring palette layered with timber, marble, custom upholstery, stately lighting and glorious shades of green, which enhance the connection to outdoor spaces.

Reflecting on the three decades she's lived in the house, the last two with her adult children Mackenzie, Stafford and Sienna, a favourite place to gather is the deck, which has hosted many celebrations and provided an idyllic spot to take in the city sights and sounds. "From the deck, we always enjoy the annual Riverfire event and New Year's fireworks displays and being directly opposite the Riverstage in the City Botanic Gardens we benefit from free concert music," says Lindar. Recently closing her chapter in the home's history to downsize, Lindar reflects her gut instinct all those years ago was right. "I've loved living here as a custodian and I'm proud to have left my mark on Rockfield and the Brisbane landscape." HB ***For more stunning homes, visit www.homebeautiful.com.au.***

Deck living *Half the deck is devoted to dining, with the other end furnished for relaxing on a cluster of 'Avalon' sofas and chairs with cushions in Lindar's favoured colours, all sourced from Highgate House. A 'Portofino' teak coffee table from Xavier Furniture, grounded by a Dash & Albert 'Samode' rug from Temple & Webster, is a handy spot to hold drinks.* >

Gazebo *A 'Snyder' outdoor sofa set by B_seated layered with cushions from Provincial Home Living creates a comfortable retreat in the gazebo (this page) to enjoy glorious garden views.* **Deck dining** *The extended deck takes in sweeping city and river views, perfectly framed by original iron lacework which creates artful shadow play throughout the day. A Highgate House dining table and chairs has hosted many alfresco get-togethers, with a Lights & Lamps Australia chandelier providing ambience after sunset.*

SOURCE BOOK

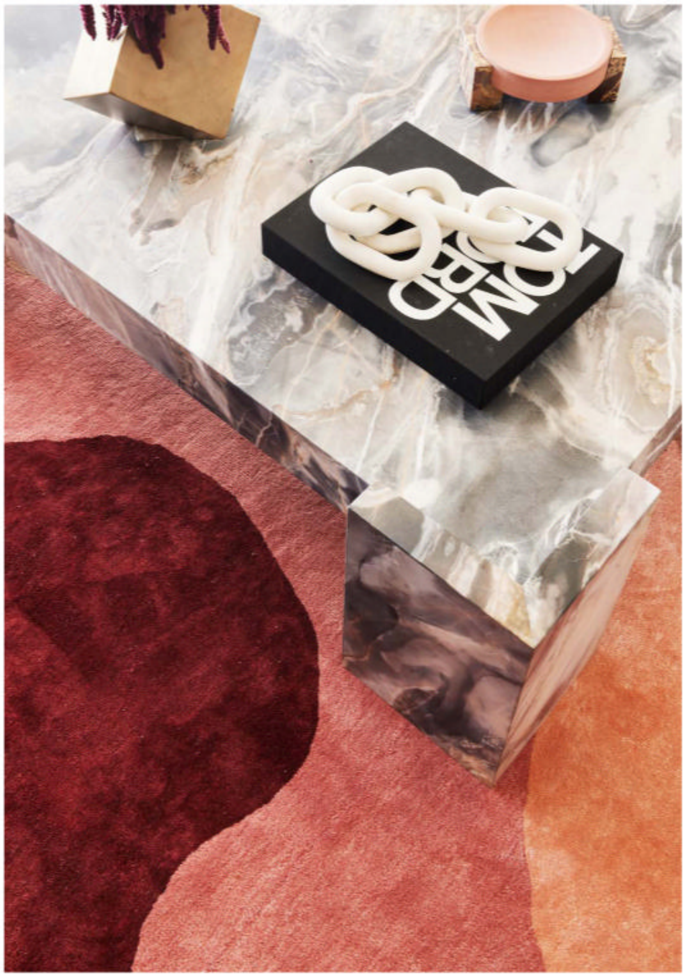
Interior designer *Highgate House, highgatehouse.com.* ***Architects*** *Bruce Buchanan (retired); Kon Panagopoulos, KP Architects, kparchitects.com.au; Graeme Spender, Davis Sommerville Architects, 0411 451 369.* ***Landscape design*** *Steven Clegg Design, stevenclegg design.com.au.* ***Exterior tiling*** *Stellar Tiling Group, @stellartiling* ***Kitchen joinery*** *Wyer + Craw, wyercraw.com.au.*

ALL PAINT COLOURS MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

Modern muse

This Sydney home was transformed from cold and commercial to warm and welcoming, with new-found city skyline views, blush hues and furniture with flair

STORY **JULIA FAIRLEY** | PHOTOGRAPHY **CHRIS WARNES**



Life in colour *After buying their home in Sydney, Leah and Trent embarked on a staged renovation over six years to infuse it with soul. "We wanted a blend of modern and classic," says Leah. A custom Tappeti rug and Coco Republic coffee table strike a colourful chord in the living area (left & above) beside Arthur G 'Mondo' sofas and a 'Lunar' armchair. The James Said 'Astro' bookshelf and Timothy Oulton 'Light Wheel' pendants add an edgy twist to the room, which bathes in filtered light from Mokum 'Kensho' sheers in Oyster.* **>**

Of all the elements that distinguish residential and commercial interiors, none are more palpable than the sense of heart we find in a home. It was this feeling of a beating pulse that was missing when Leah and Trent moved into their semi-detached house in Sydney's Inner West. In its place was a commercial vibe, where mass-produced materials and cold finishes replaced the soulful selections you'd hope to find.

"The size of the home was what we were looking for, but we felt the interiors needed a refresh," says Leah. "However, when looking to renovate previous homes, we discovered interior design was not either of our strengths." To usher in the warm yet modern ambience they love, the couple tasked interior designer Lily Cumberland with its transformation, which unfolded over several years and staged phases.

Starting at the ground floor, moving to the first level then finishing with the under-house zone and studio, Lily gutted and reimagined the entire interior from 2018 to 2024. "The main goal was clear: we needed to shift the space from feeling like a cold, commercial office building to something that was warm, welcoming, and truly felt like home," she says.

Out went the generic square-tiled flooring and heavy stainless steel balustrade ("it didn't exactly make the space feel warm or inviting," says Lily). And in came a chorus of natural materials, organic shapes and colour ("Trent and Leah were open to incorporating pink tones throughout – something I was absolutely thrilled about since it's one of my favourite colours," she says). In the end, Lily demolished walls for better flow in the kitchen, relocated the laundry, carved out new breakout rooms and storage spaces, and redesigned the main ensuite to frame iconic views of the Anzac Bridge.

To Leah and Trent's delight, they can now entertain, work from home and relax in style, both indoors and out. However, the best part is that for the first time since they picked up the keys, their house finally feels like home. HB ***For more stunning homes, visit www.homebeautiful.com.au.***

Foyer *Nestled between the new gym, garage and cellar is the lower-ground foyer (top left), where a Coco Republic console and sconces add drama to the 'Scarpa' floor tiles from Surface Gallery.* ***Dining*** *A Tappeti 'Faded Neon' rug in Fog grounds Coco Republic chairs and a Zuster 'Stella' table in Coal Oak in the dining area (bottom left). Lily (pictured, opposite) decorated the soaring atrium with an original artwork by Charmaine Pwerle.* >

INSIDE STORY
Leah & Trent's home

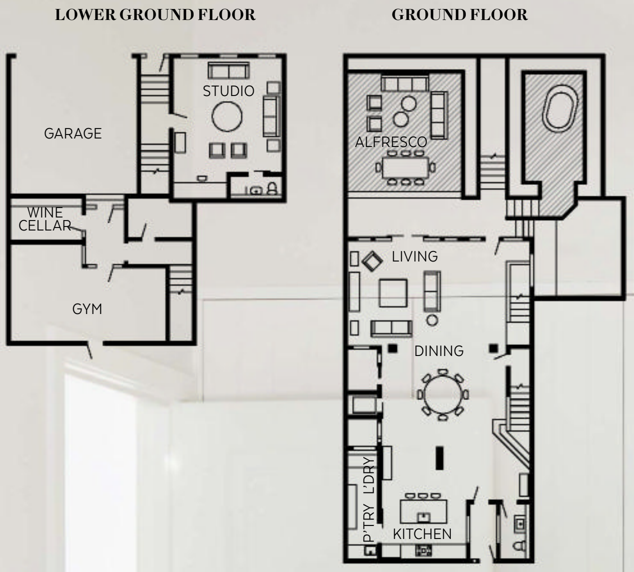
Who lives here? *Leah, Trent and the couple's three-year-old Toy Poodle, Lottie.*
What was your approach to furnishings? *Leah: "Moving from a small apartment, we didn't have enough furniture to fill the space, so we had to start afresh to achieve the consistency in look and feel that we wanted throughout the house."*
Favourite weekend rituals? *"We enjoy having friends over on the weekends. A lot of them love heading downstairs to select a wine from the new wine storage area! When not entertaining, we like reading and soaking up the sun on our daybed."*
Any flow-on effects from the redesign? *"The level of finishes means that it takes a fancy hotel room a lot more to impress!"*

“WE’VE ALWAYS ADMIRED HOMES THAT HAVE THOUGHTFULLY MIXED TEXTURES AND COLOURS, AND WANTED TO ACHIEVE THAT HERE” **LEAH**

Studio *“Trent and Leah had some truly striking, bold art pieces,” says Lily. Works from Coco Republic hang in the studio (top left), and tie in with the couple’s old vintage sofa plus its new counterpart and marble coffee table, both Coco Republic. The rug is Tappeti.* ***Studio ensuite*** *All bathrooms were redesigned, even the ensuite in the studio (bottom left). Here, Coco Republic lighting, Carrara marble wall mosaics from Surface Gallery, an ‘Issy’ shaving cabinet from Reece and Parisi basin complete the look.* ***Butler’s pantry*** *Hidden off the kitchen is the butler’s pantry (bottom right), with upper joinery in Resene Foggy Grey and lower V-groove cupboards in Resene Alabaster.* ***Kitchen*** *Smartstone benchtops, Eveneer cabinetry from Elton Group and Coco Republic bar stools were essential ingredients in the kitchen scheme for Lily (pictured, opposite).* **>**

ARTWORK (THIS PAGE) GUY WARREN

FLOOR PLAN



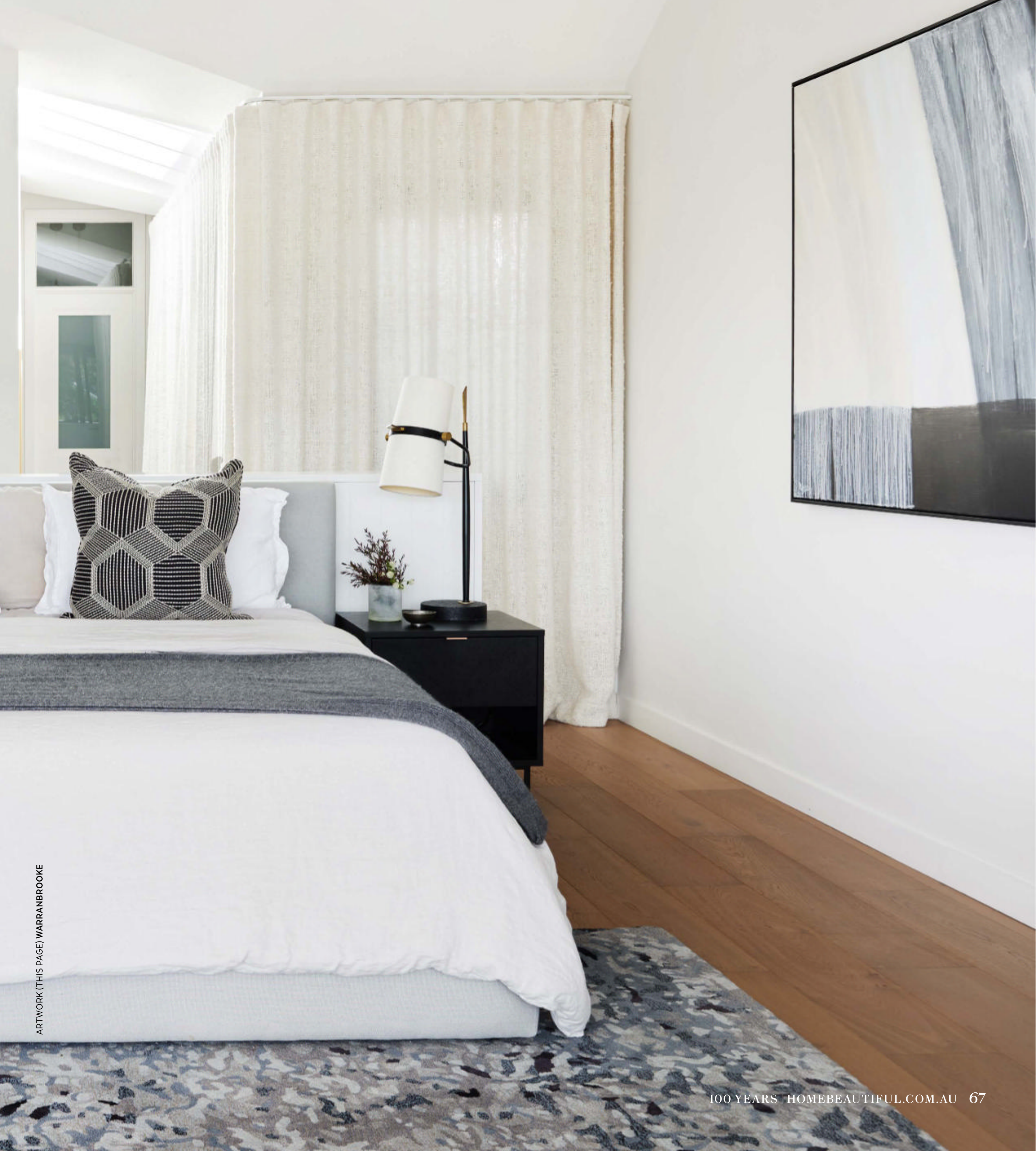
LOWER GROUND FLOOR

GROUND FLOOR

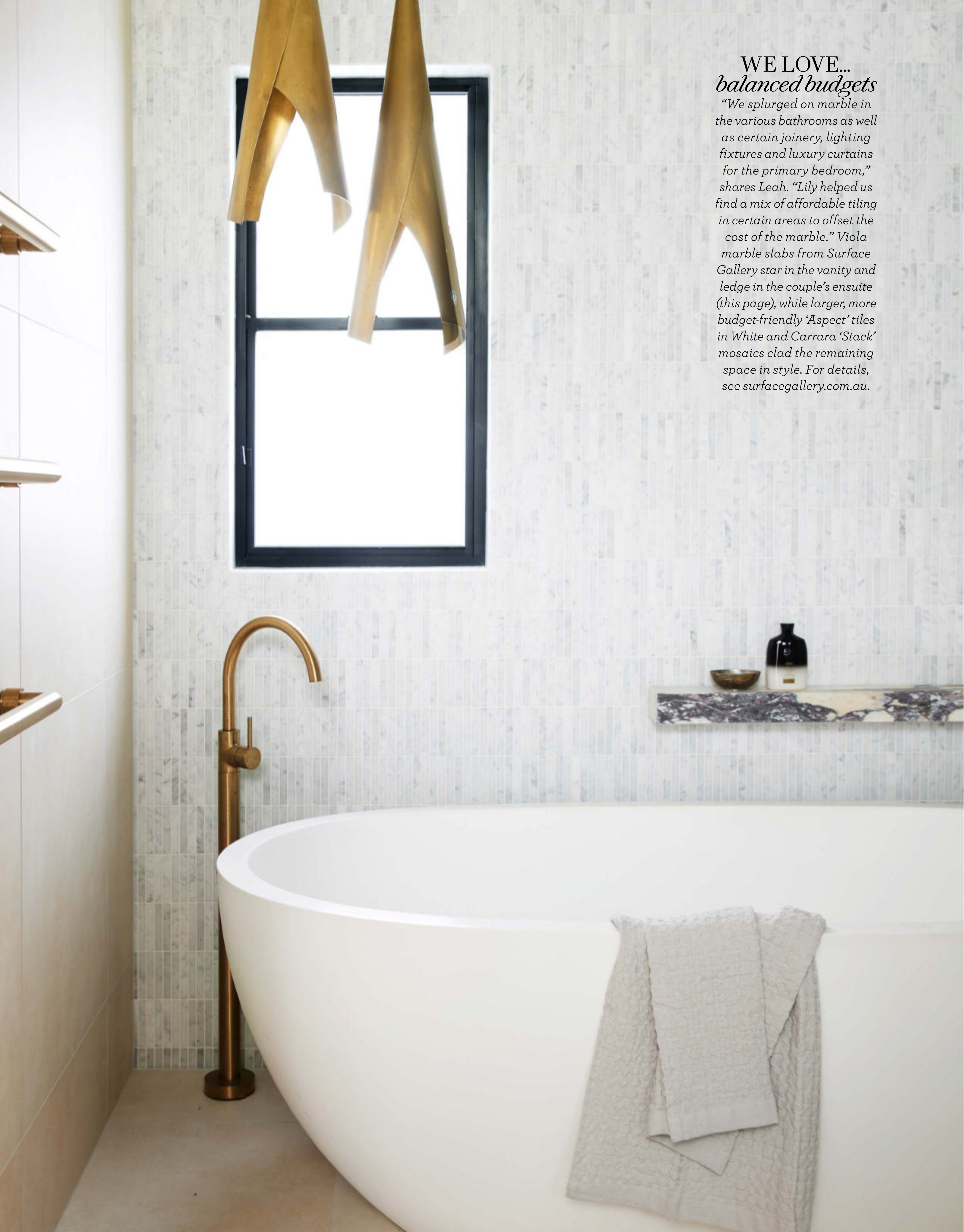
FIRST FLOOR

STUDIO
GARAGE
WINE CELLAR
GYM
ALFRESCO
LIVING
DINING
L'DRY
P'TRY
KITCHEN
MAIN BED
BED/ STUDY
WIR
BED
ENS
BATH

Main bedroom *One of Lily's favourite features is the run of Mokum 'Handloom' curtains in Silk that river through the main bedroom. "There was a bit of hesitation from Trent and Leah about this choice, but I'm so glad they trusted me," she shares, "the curtains bring an incredible texture." The 1.8-metre Arteriors mirror from Boyd Blue is another standout. "It wasn't just a challenge to get it into the space, it was a whole ordeal to hang! But it completely transformed the room, balancing the asymmetrical pitch of the vaulted ceiling, and it reflects the city skyline views from both sides of the bedroom." Lamps from Boyd Blue and a tactile area rug from Tappeti warm up the space.* **>**



ARTWORK (THIS PAGE) **WARRANBROOKE**



WE LOVE... *balanced budgets*

"We splurged on marble in the various bathrooms as well as certain joinery, lighting fixtures and luxury curtains for the primary bedroom," shares Leah. "Lily helped us find a mix of affordable tiling in certain areas to offset the cost of the marble." Viola marble slabs from Surface Gallery star in the vanity and ledge in the couple's ensuite (this page), while larger, more budget-friendly 'Aspect' tiles in White and Carrara 'Stack' mosaics clad the remaining space in style. For details, see surfacegallery.com.au.

Main ensuite *Metallic accents in the Brodware 'City Plus' tapware in Roma Bronze and sculptural pendants from Coco Republic introduce an air of opulence to Leah and Trent's ensuite (top right, bottom left & opposite). Joinery in warm-toned Polytec Ravine in Natural Oak harmonises beautifully, while the Apaiser 'Sapphire' bath and 'Sentosa' basin, both from Candana, act as subtle palette cleansers. "One of the standout features was the Viola marble in the bathrooms – that really took the space to the next level and brings an element of luxury," says Lily. "The stunning veining and rich red tones make a bold statement and instantly elevate the entire room. It's one of those materials that feels timeless and adds such depth and character."* ***Walk-in robe*** *Mokum 'Handloom' curtains in Silk lend an ethereal element to the couple's walk-in robe (bottom right).* >

Alfresco *"We are able to work from home a lot more comfortably than we were used to, which gives us a lot more flexibility in how we manage work and life," says Leah. "We also enjoy the main floor and outside terraces, which allows for easy entertaining from the butler's pantry to the kitchen, through to our outside terrace." Sited above the redesigned studio, the outdoor terrace is bedecked with comfortable alfresco finds from Globe West and Coco Republic. Beyond the lush border of greenery and charming rooftop views glints the Sydney skyline, which glows golden at sunset.*

SOURCE BOOK

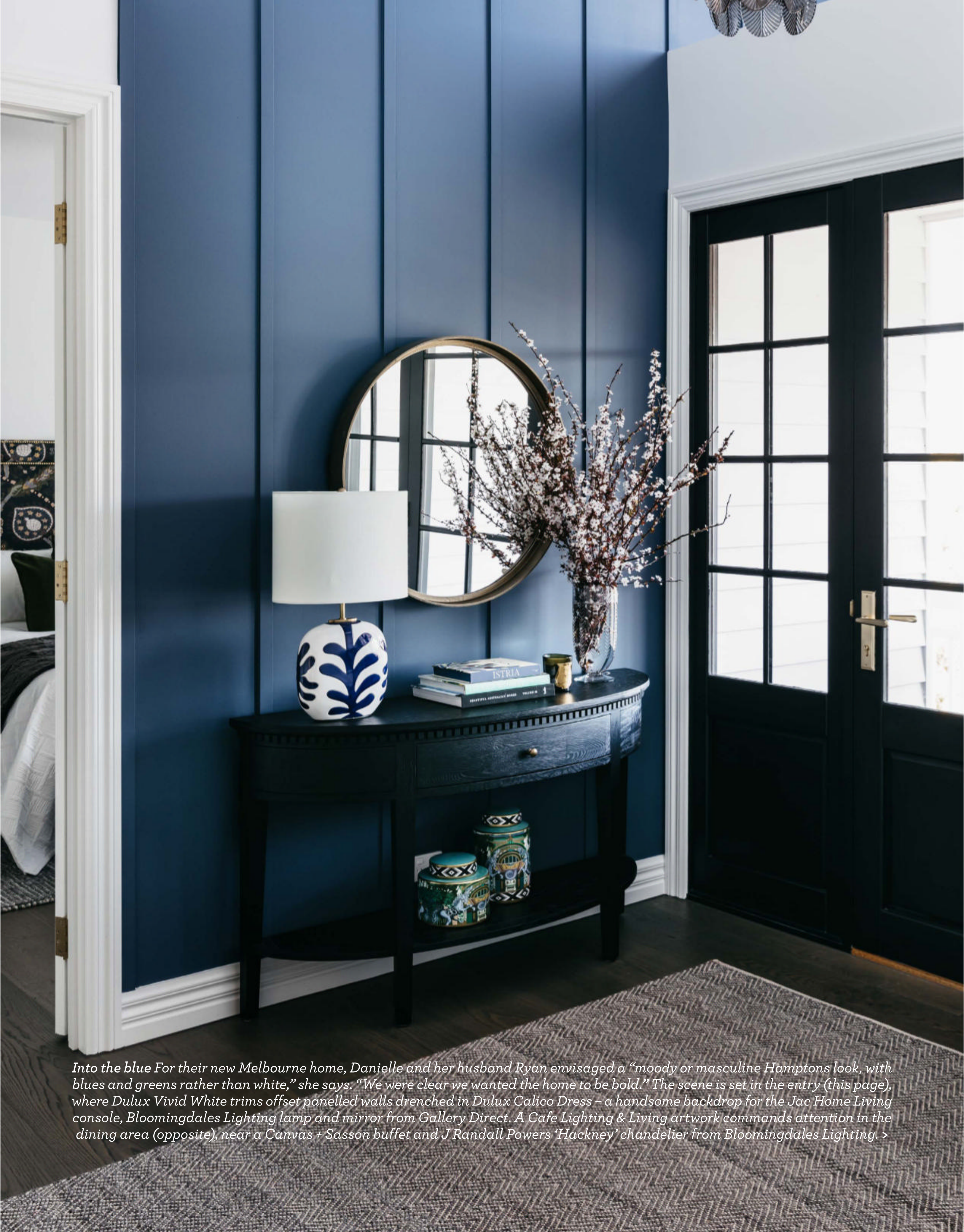
Interior design *Lily Cumberland Interior Design, lilycumberland.com.*
Builder *Fulcrum Building, fulcrumbuilding.com.au.*

IN THE MOOD

Deep hues and glamorous touches create
a striking new home for a family of seven

STORY **JULIA FAIRLEY** | STYLING **ANNALESE HAY** | PHOTOGRAPHY **KATE ENNO**

FLOWERS (THROUGHOUT) **FLOWERS BY EVE** ALL PAINT COLOURS MAY VARY ON APPLICATION



Into the blue *For their new Melbourne home, Danielle and her husband Ryan envisaged a "moody or masculine Hamptons look, with blues and greens rather than white," she says. "We were clear we wanted the home to be bold." The scene is set in the entry (this page), where Dulux Vivid White trims offset panelled walls drenched in Dulux Calico Dress – a handsome backdrop for the Jac Home Living console, Bloomingdales Lighting lamp and mirror from Gallery Direct. A Cafe Lighting & Living artwork commands attention in the dining area (opposite), near a Canvas + Sasson buffet and J Randall Powers 'Hackney' chandelier from Bloomingdales Lighting. >*

For many of us, the quest to find a spacious home near loved ones can see us farewell old neighbourhoods, explore new ones and, with a stroke of luck, discover greener pastures. For Danielle and Ryan, their desire to live closer to Ryan's three teenage daughters led the couple to venture from their home in Melbourne's Western Suburbs to the city's leafy northeastern neighbourhoods, hoping to find a home large enough for their blended family of seven.

"Ryan had found 20 acres that he insisted we drive by to take a look, even though it was way out of our price range," recalls Danielle of their property search. "I humoured him and while we were making our way back to the ring road, we drove through this area. It was beautiful. I said to Ryan, 'Why not here?'. We finally knew where we wanted to be."

A search for suitable houses came to naught, so the couple turned their sights to the sole parcel of land in the area for sale – a steeply sloped site that Danielle says "scared off" other buyers with its gradient. Undeterred, they forged ahead in late 2020 and enlisted architect Gary McFarlane and builder McInnes Homes to design and build their dream home.

Initially, Danielle seized the opportunity of working with a blank canvas to channel the style she loved – a handsome, not-quite-Hamptons aesthetic. However, when faced with the sheer scale of selections, let alone layering different fabrics and finishes, the allure soon wore off. "Trying to pick every single fixture and fitting ourselves was not only going to be extremely time consuming, but also daunting and risky," she says. "I felt we were either going to end up with a completely white home, because it was safe, or that I would make some bad choices. I needed help!"

The help in question arrived with the experienced eye of interior designer Katherine Lillie, who immediately understood the "masculine Hamptons" aesthetic Danielle envisaged. "The images I sent Katherine as inspiration were mostly navy or green and brass," she says. "I recall saying in my initial email, 'Some of it may seem a bit out there'."

The palette was set in the kitchen after Danielle spotted the colour that now cloaks the cabinetry and the quartzite slab that graces the benchtops. "When I saw it, I didn't look at another piece," she says. "As we walked past this piece, it jumped out at me and I was immediately in love with it. I had to have it!"

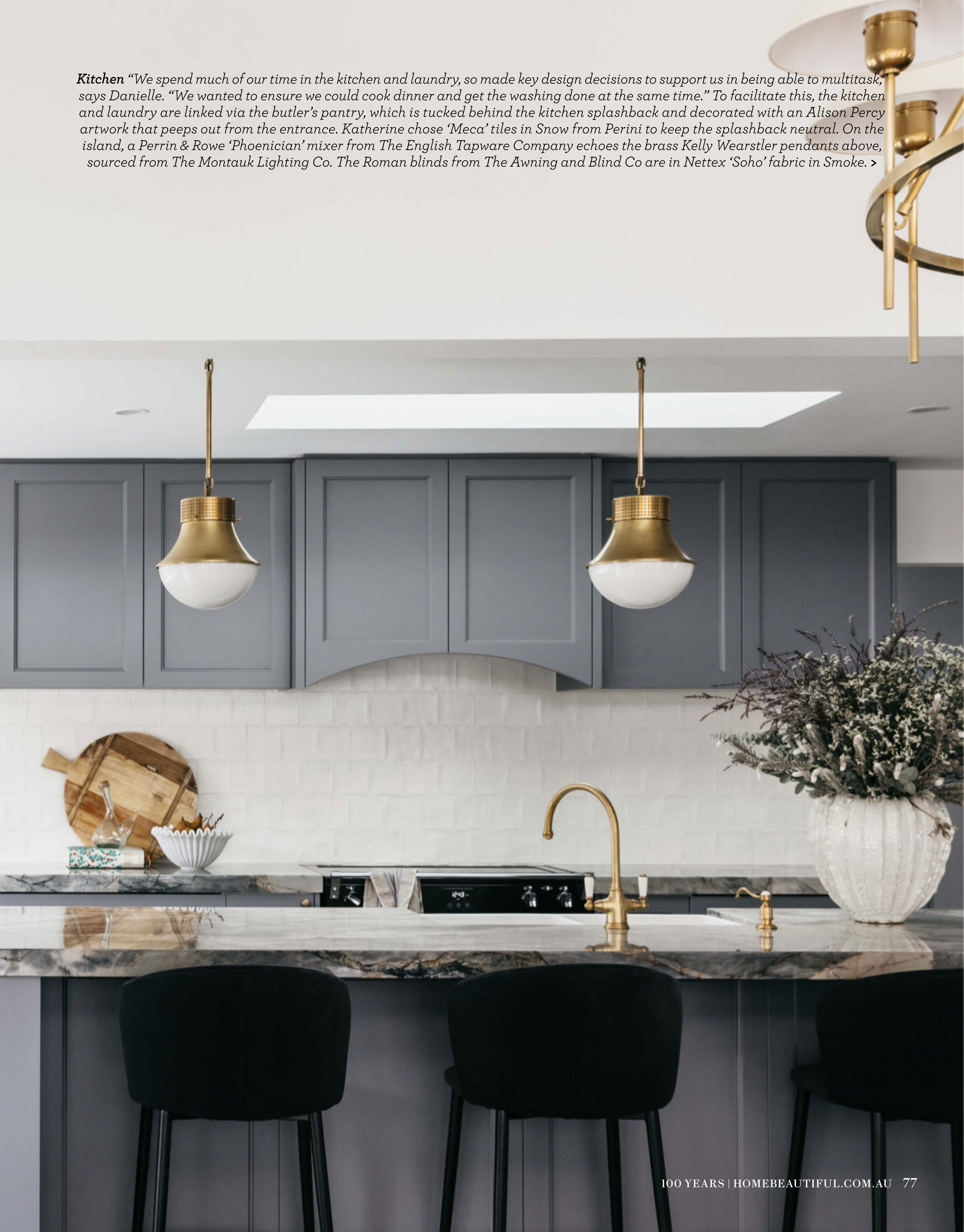
Hinting at Hamptons style, wainscoting and wall panelling followed, which Katherine dressed in moody blues, a forest of greens and splashes of pattern, to the delight of the family who moved into their new sanctuary in mid-2023. "We love everything about our finished home, the result has been better than we ever expected," shares Danielle. HB ***For more stunning homes, visit www.homebeautiful.com.au.***

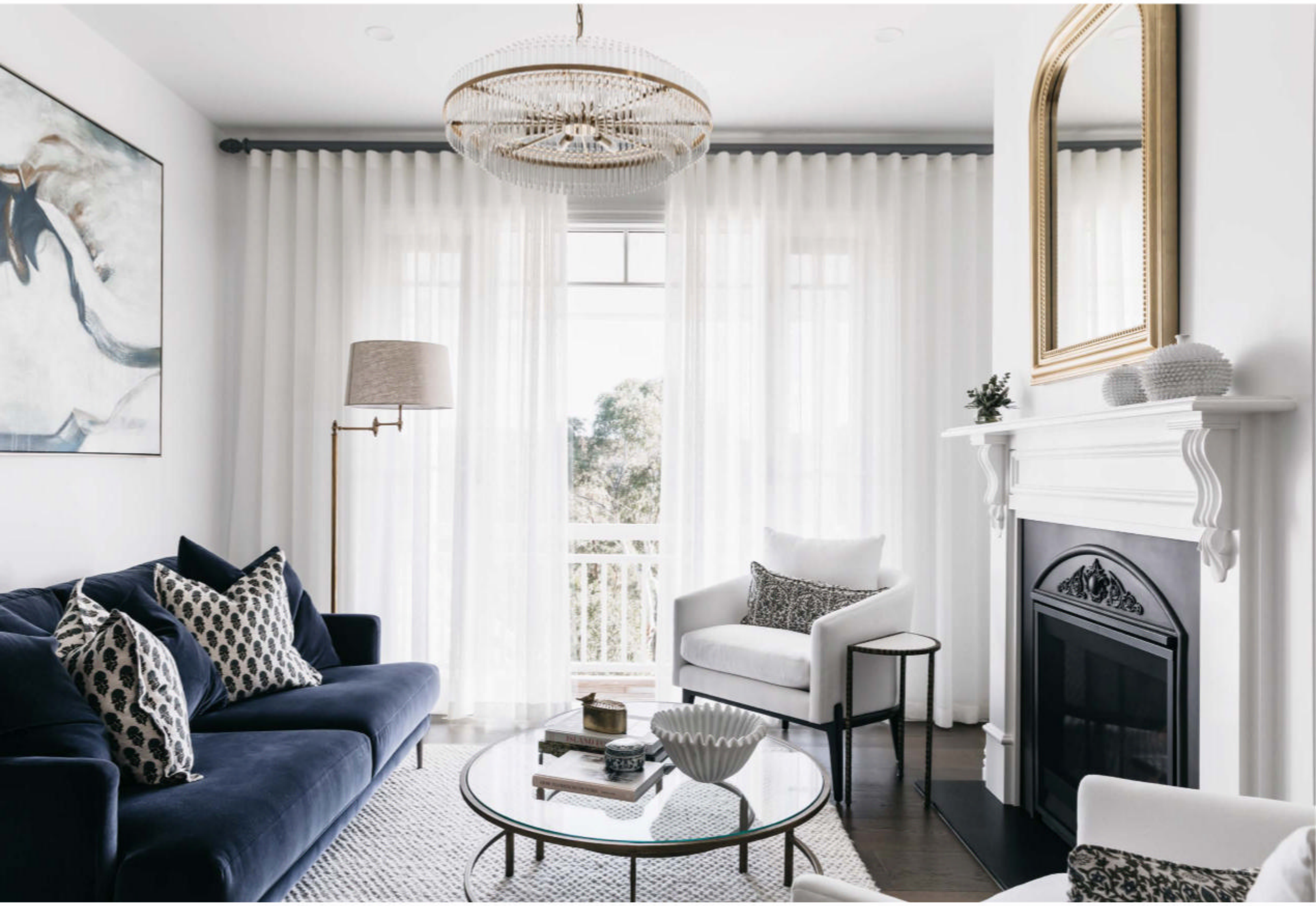
***Kitchen** "Starting with the kitchen, we chose a dark colour palette that exudes sophistication and has an edge of vibrant, moody atmosphere," says Katherine (pictured, this page). "The cabinetry paint colour, Porter's Paints French Slate, influenced our selection of fabrics, unique tiles and fittings for the rest of the house." The palette is reflected in stormy Copacabana quartzite benchtops from Gladstones Granite & Marble and underscored by engineered oak floors in Silky Grey from Victorian Designer Floors (opposite).*

INSIDE STORY
Danielle & Ryan's home

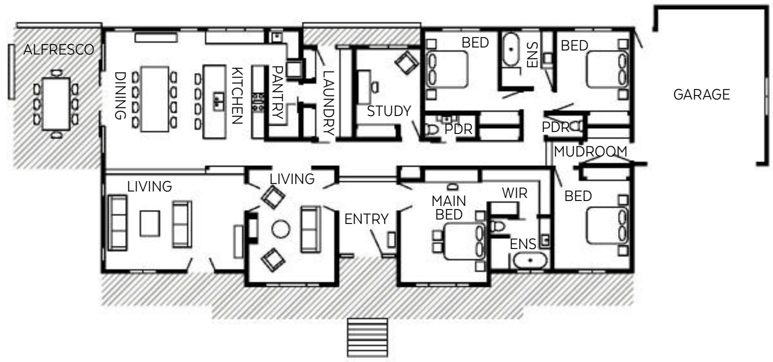
Who lives here? *Danielle, an IT consultant, Ryan, a chemical plant technician, his daughters Bonnie, 16, twins Charlotte and Rose, 14, and the couple's kids Sully, seven, and Edie, five.*
Which areas get the most use? *Danielle: "The sitting room is where you'll find Ryan playing the piano or bass guitar with the fire going. The girls love spending time in there lying by the fire on cold evenings, and Sully and Charlotte often play chess there. The kitchen/dining/living area is always alive with activity – it's never still."*
Favourite room? *"My bedroom is like a luxury hotel; I feel spoilt being able to go to sleep in such a beautiful room."*
Best building tip? *"Don't underestimate the length of time it can take to plan and get approval. We naively thought we'd be in our new home in mid-2022 and we eventually moved in during mid-2023."*

Kitchen *"We spend much of our time in the kitchen and laundry, so made key design decisions to support us in being able to multitask," says Danielle. "We wanted to ensure we could cook dinner and get the washing done at the same time." To facilitate this, the kitchen and laundry are linked via the butler's pantry, which is tucked behind the kitchen splashback and decorated with an Alison Percy artwork that peeps out from the entrance. Katherine chose 'Meca' tiles in Snow from Perini to keep the splashback neutral. On the island, a Perrin & Rowe 'Phoenician' mixer from The English Tapware Company echoes the brass Kelly Wearstler pendants above, sourced from The Montauk Lighting Co. The Roman blinds from The Awning and Blind Co are in Nettex 'Soho' fabric in Smoke.* >



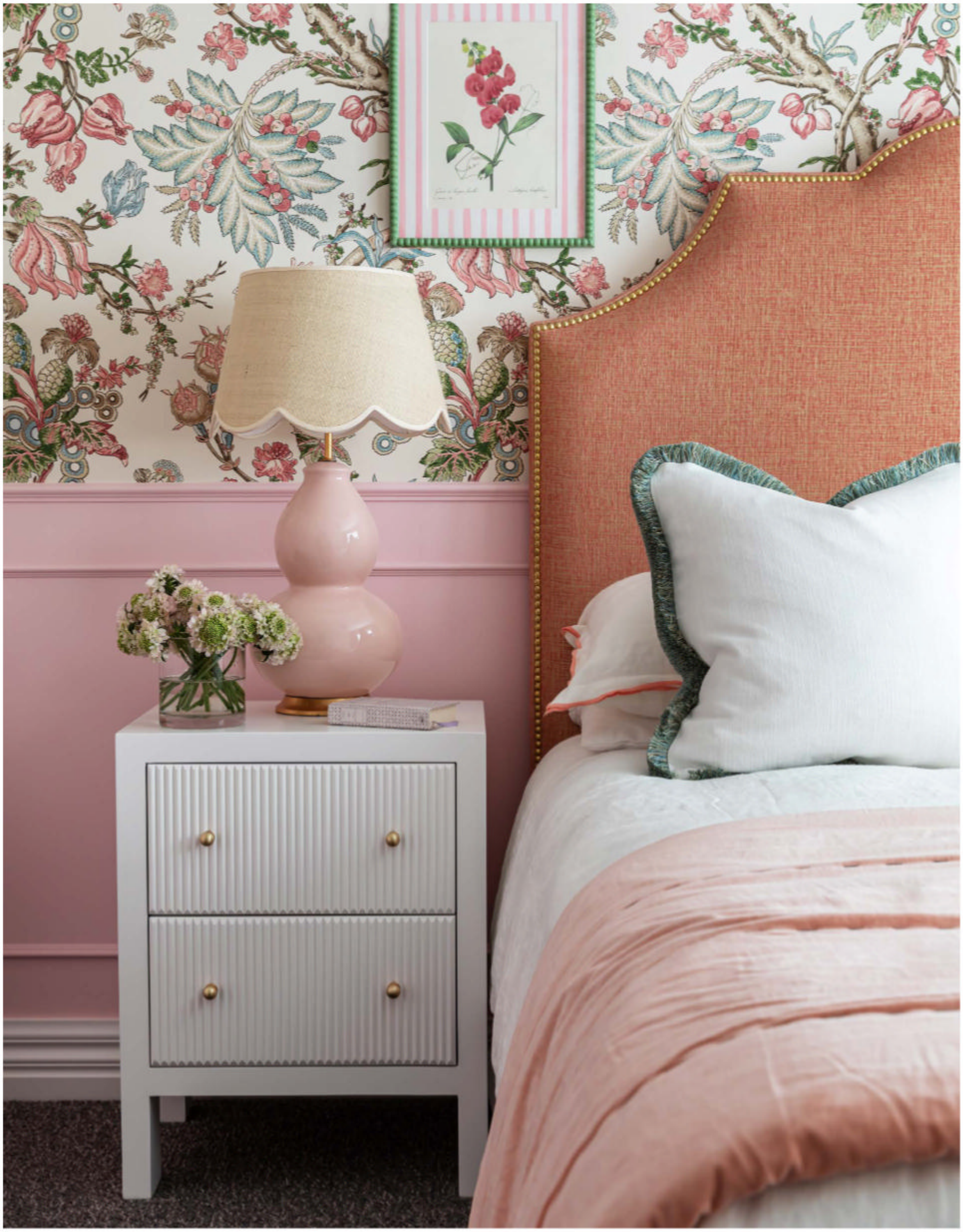


FLOOR PLAN

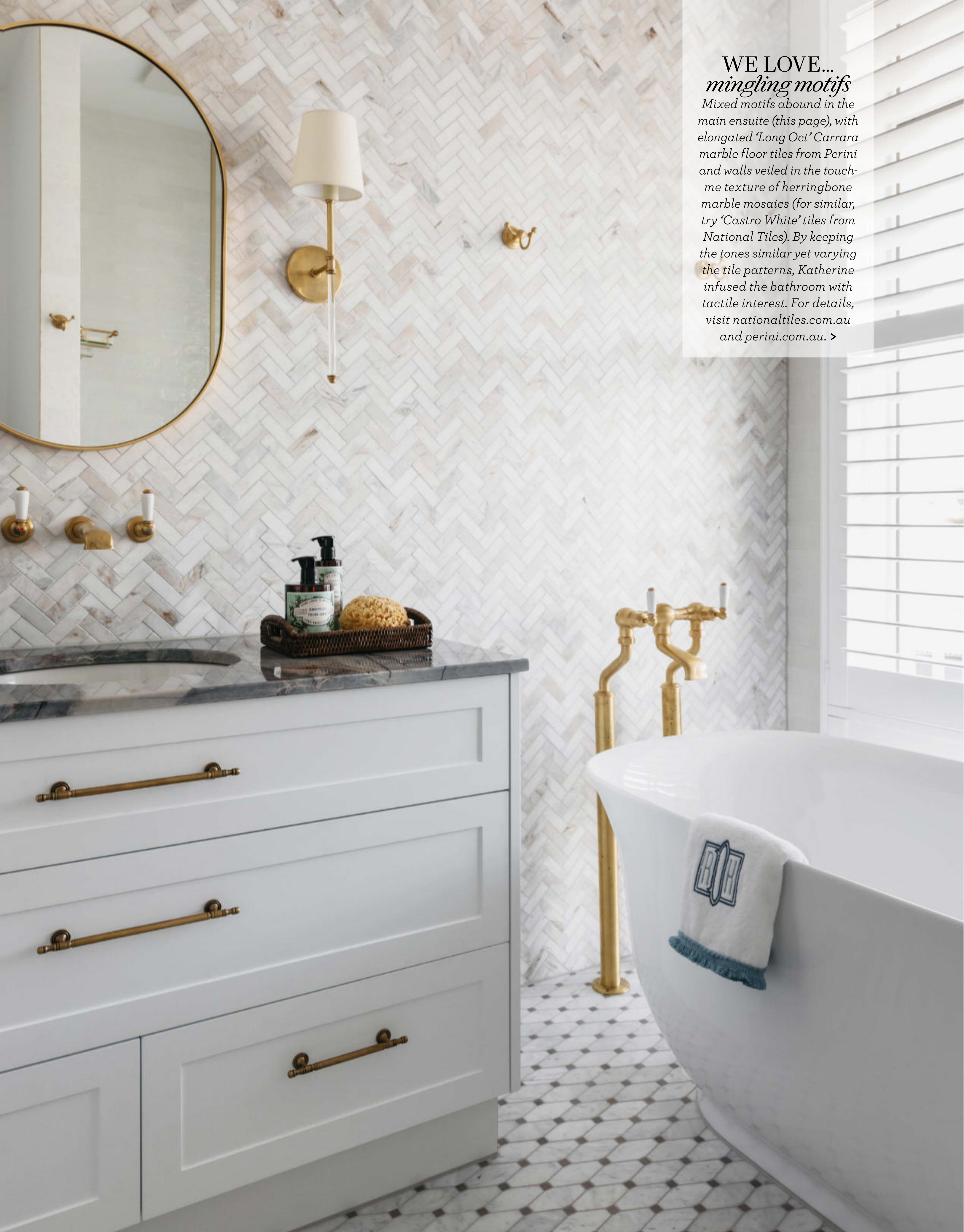

ALFRESCO
DINING
KITCHEN
PANTRY
LAUNDRY
STUDY
BED
ENS
BED
PDR
PDR
MUDROOM
GARAGE
LIVING
LIVING
ENTRY
MAIN BED
WIR
ENS
BED

***Living** The colours in the kitchen flow into the formal living room (this page & opposite), where a Coco Republic sofa and occasional chairs are resplendent around a cluster of Globe West coffee tables. The cushions from Canvas + Sasson pick up hues in the artwork from Cafe Lighting & Living. "Our goal was to create a timeless residence suitable for a large family, characterised by a masculine, dark and moody atmosphere," says Katherine of the palette. The fireplace – one of Danielle's marketplace finds – was freshened up with a lick of paint to lend a classic feel to the room. An 'Emerson' rug in Seasalt from Weave and soft sheers in Zepel 'Allusion' fabric in Pearl play a supporting role, while the pendant and mirror, both Cafe Lighting & Living, take centrestage.* **>**

> “WE WANTED THE HOME TO HAVE A CLASSIC AND TIMELESS FEEL, BUT ALSO CONTEMPORARY AT THE SAME TIME”
>
> **DANIELLE, HOMEOWNER**

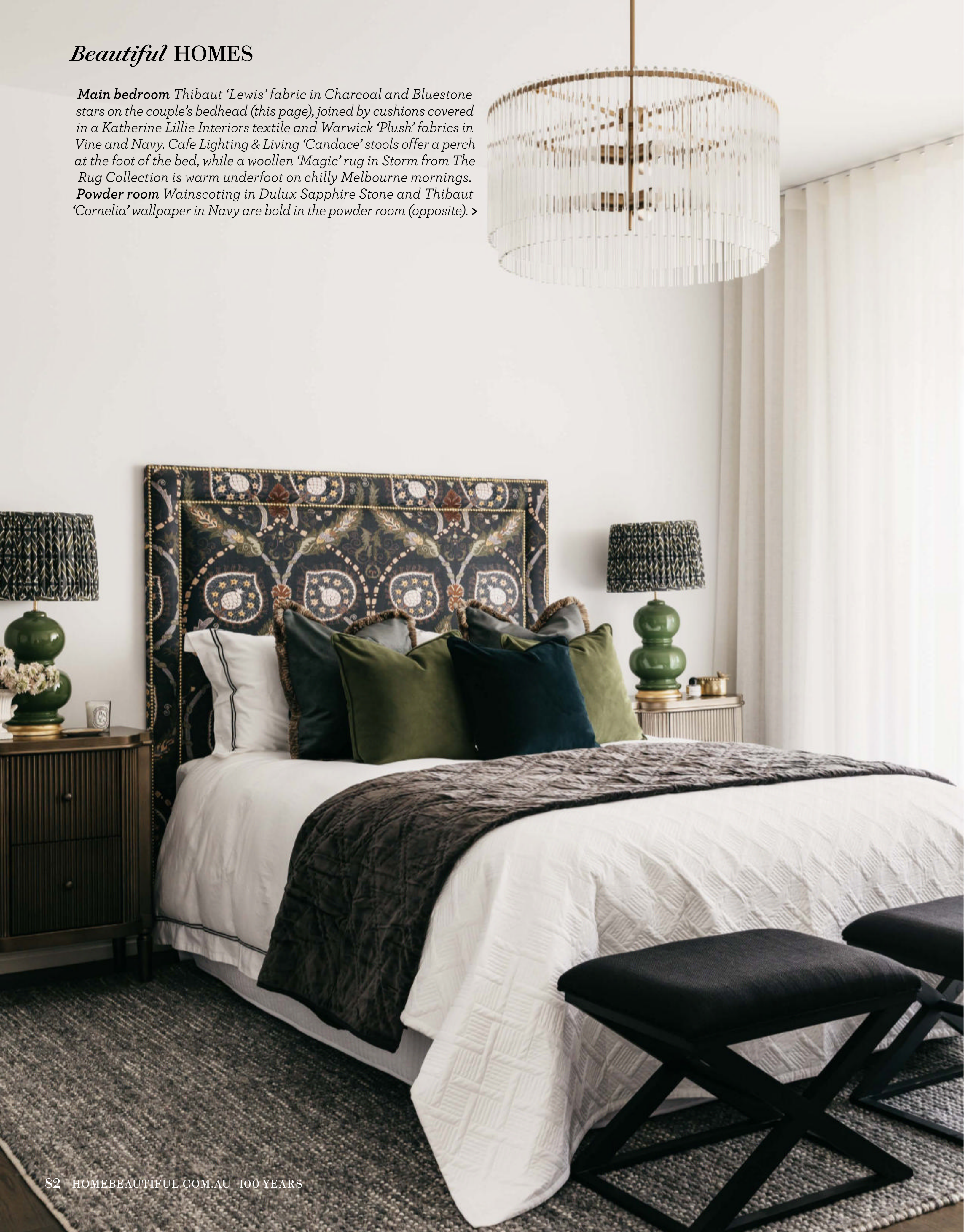


Edie's bedroom *"Edie loves her bedroom, she calls it her princess room," says Danielle of her daughter's sweet space (this page). Thibaut 'Chatelain' wallpaper in Pink unites the colours in the bespoke bedhead, upholstered in Métaphores 'Atlas' in Opale, and the wainscoting in Porter's Paints Pretty in Pink. The bedlinen and lamp base are from Canvas + Sasson and the framed 'Pink Sweet Pea' print is from Narissa Perks. "When it came to the children's bedrooms, we embraced a more playful and individualised approach," says Katherine, who wanted each room to "set a scene and a story".* ***Main ensuite*** *"A good blend makes sure things don't feel too stuffy and formal," says Danielle of the balance between classic and contemporary styles in the main ensuite (opposite). The space is warmed by brass Hepburn Hardware handles, Perrin & Rowe tapware and sconces from The Montauk Lighting Co. For cohesion with the kitchen, the vanity is Copacabana quartzite.*



WE LOVE... *mingling motifs*

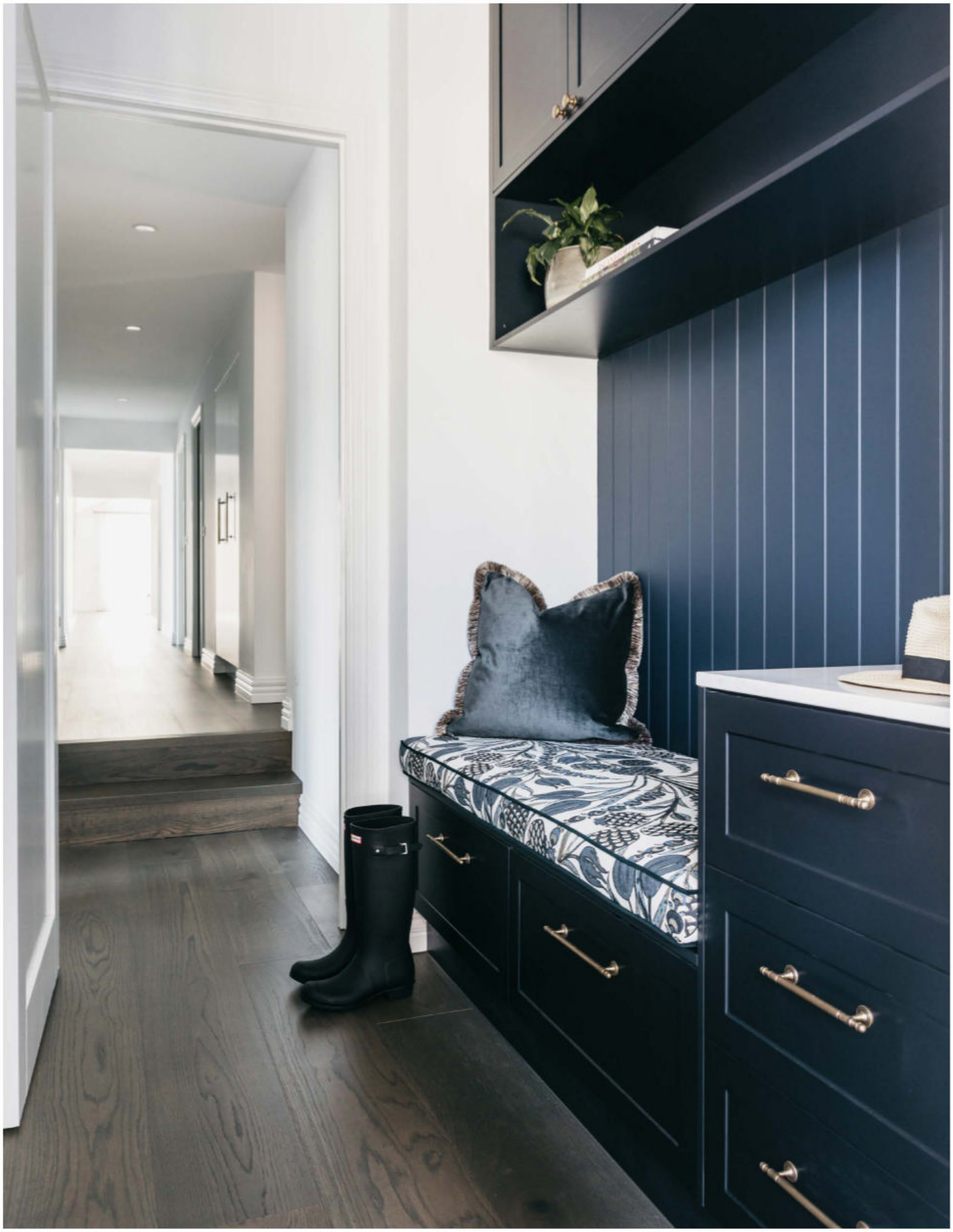
Mixed motifs abound in the main ensuite (this page), with elongated 'Long Oct' Carrara marble floor tiles from Perini and walls veiled in the touch-me texture of herringbone marble mosaics (for similar, try 'Castro White' tiles from National Tiles). By keeping the tones similar yet varying the tile patterns, Katherine infused the bathroom with tactile interest. For details, visit nationaltiles.com.au and perini.com.au. **>**



Main bedroom *Thibaut 'Lewis' fabric in Charcoal and Bluestone stars on the couple's bedhead (this page), joined by cushions covered in a Katherine Lillie Interiors textile and Warwick 'Plush' fabrics in Vine and Navy. Cafe Lighting & Living 'Candace' stools offer a perch at the foot of the bed, while a woollen 'Magic' rug in Storm from The Rug Collection is warm underfoot on chilly Melbourne mornings.* ***Powder room*** *Wainscoting in Dulux Sapphire Stone and Thibaut 'Cornelia' wallpaper in Navy are bold in the powder room (opposite).* **>**

“DANIELLE’S AIM WAS TO INFUSE THE HOME WITH DEPTH AND CHARACTER… IT LED US TO EXPERIMENT WITH PATTERNS AND GO ALL OUT ON THE FINISHES”

KATHERINE, INTERIOR DESIGNER



Mudroom *The family's five children have ample storage in the mudroom (this page). Painted in Dulux Sapphire Stone and fitted with joinery in Polytec Oxford, the banquette adds a plush touch with Thibaut 'Cornelia' fabric in Navy.* ***Laundry*** *"We focused on practical things like having spaces for school bags, a drying cupboard in the laundry and built-in laundry baskets," says Danielle of the busy washing zone (opposite). Surrounded by plenty of concealed joinery in Polytec Polar White, the Fisher & Paykel washer and dryer from Harvey Norman withstand the constant use with ease and a long benchtop ensures there's plenty of room to tackle the folding.*

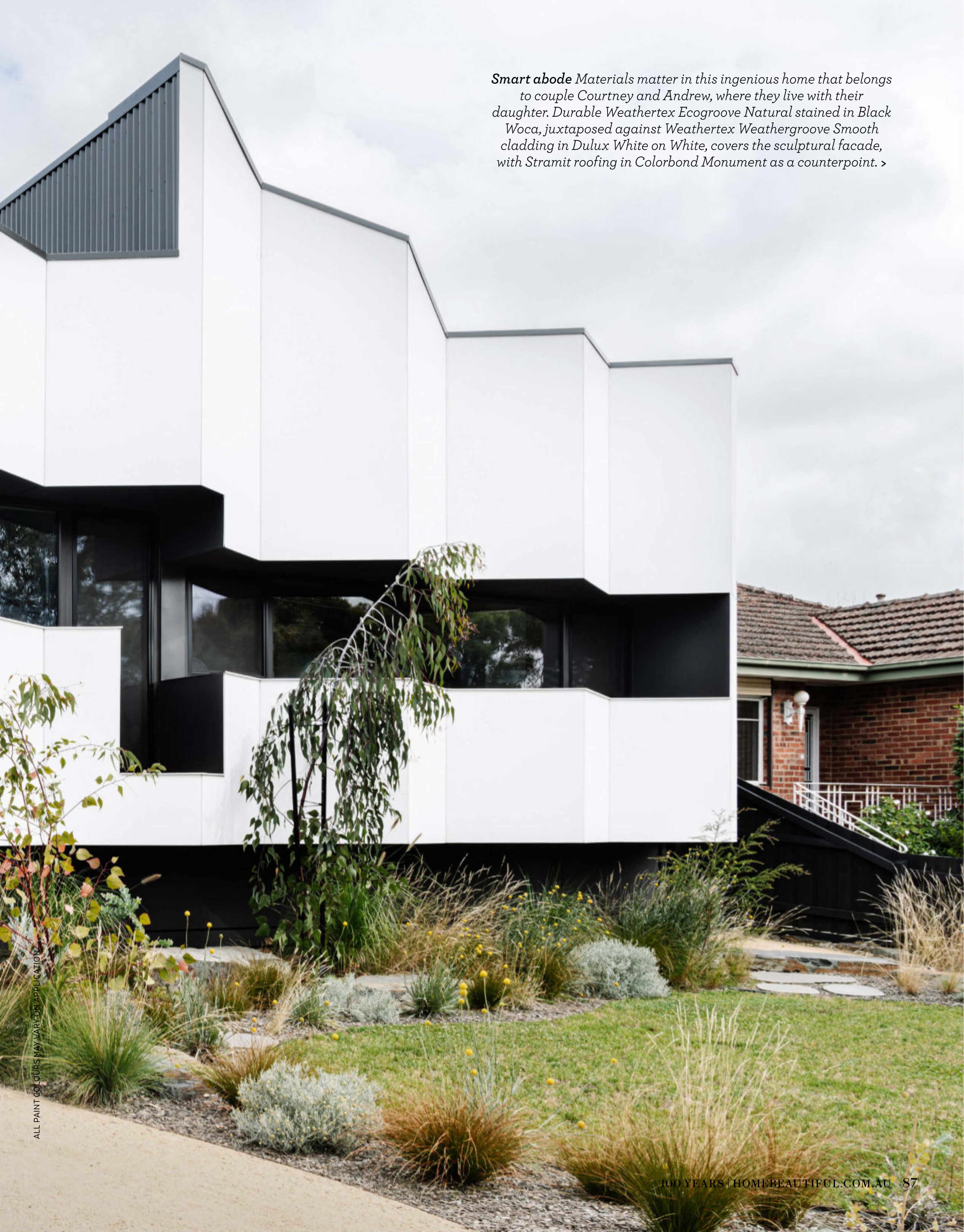
SOURCE BOOK

Interior design *Katherine Lillie Interiors, katherinelillieinteriors.com.au.*
Architect *Gary McFarlane & Associates Architects, 0408 396 011.*
Builder *McInnes Homes, mcinneshomes.com.au.*

Out of the box

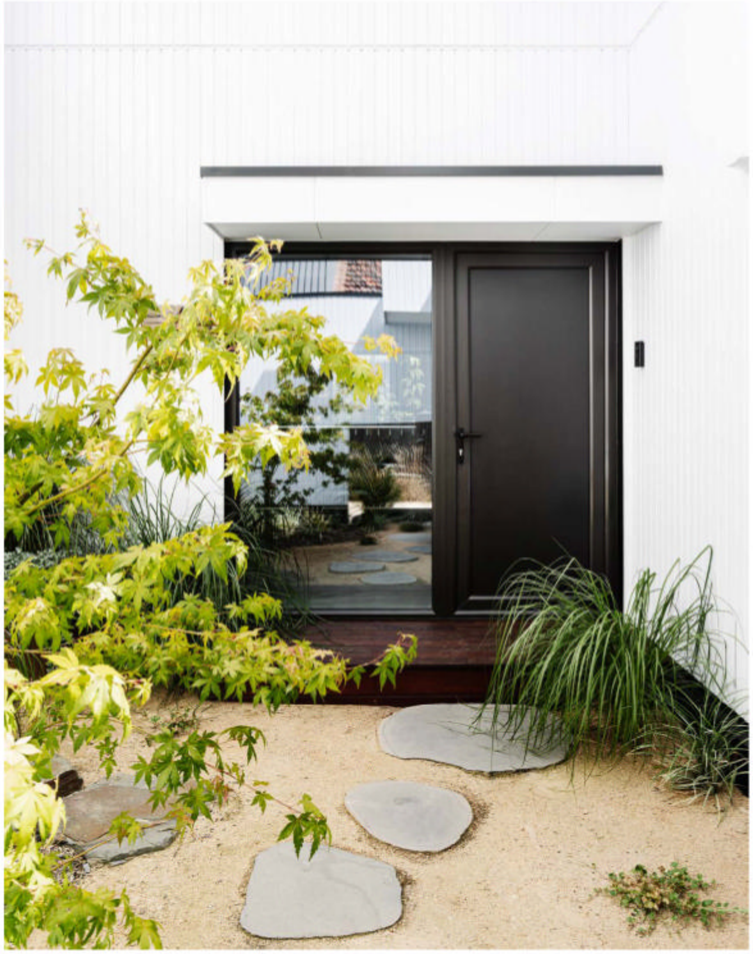
As striking as it is serene, this modern Melbourne home is all the more special for its focus on sustainability

STORY JACKIE BRYGEL | STYLING BELLE HEMMING PHOTOGRAPHY MARNIE HAWSON



Smart abode *Materials matter in this ingenious home that belongs to couple Courtney and Andrew, where they live with their daughter. Durable Weathertex Ecogroove Natural stained in Black Woca, juxtaposed against Weathertex Weathergroove Smooth cladding in Dulux White on White, covers the sculptural facade, with Stramit roofing in Colorbond Monument as a counterpoint.* >

ALL PAINT COLOURS MAY VARY ON APPLICATION



Tucked away in a leafy Melbourne suburb, the 'Passive Pleat' house stops passers-by in their tracks. But while the impact of the facade with its pleat-like 'folds' is beyond question, the home's real magic is not visible to the eye. This is an energy-efficient, environmentally focused house.

For the home's architect and certified Passive House designer Fang Cheah of Studiofang, bringing the vision to life proved as joyful an exercise as it did for the homeowners.

When homeowners Courtney and Andrew first approached Fang in 2019, they had been living for two years in the 1940s brick-veneer home that previously sat on the site. But the ageing house was far from a sanctuary for the couple, who have a young daughter. "We initially did try to look at doing a renovation rather than a rebuild," says Fang, "But there was rising damp and mould in the back section, which had begun to affect Courtney and Andrew's health. They were also starting a family, so they decided to pull the trigger on the old home and build something new. It signified a new chapter."

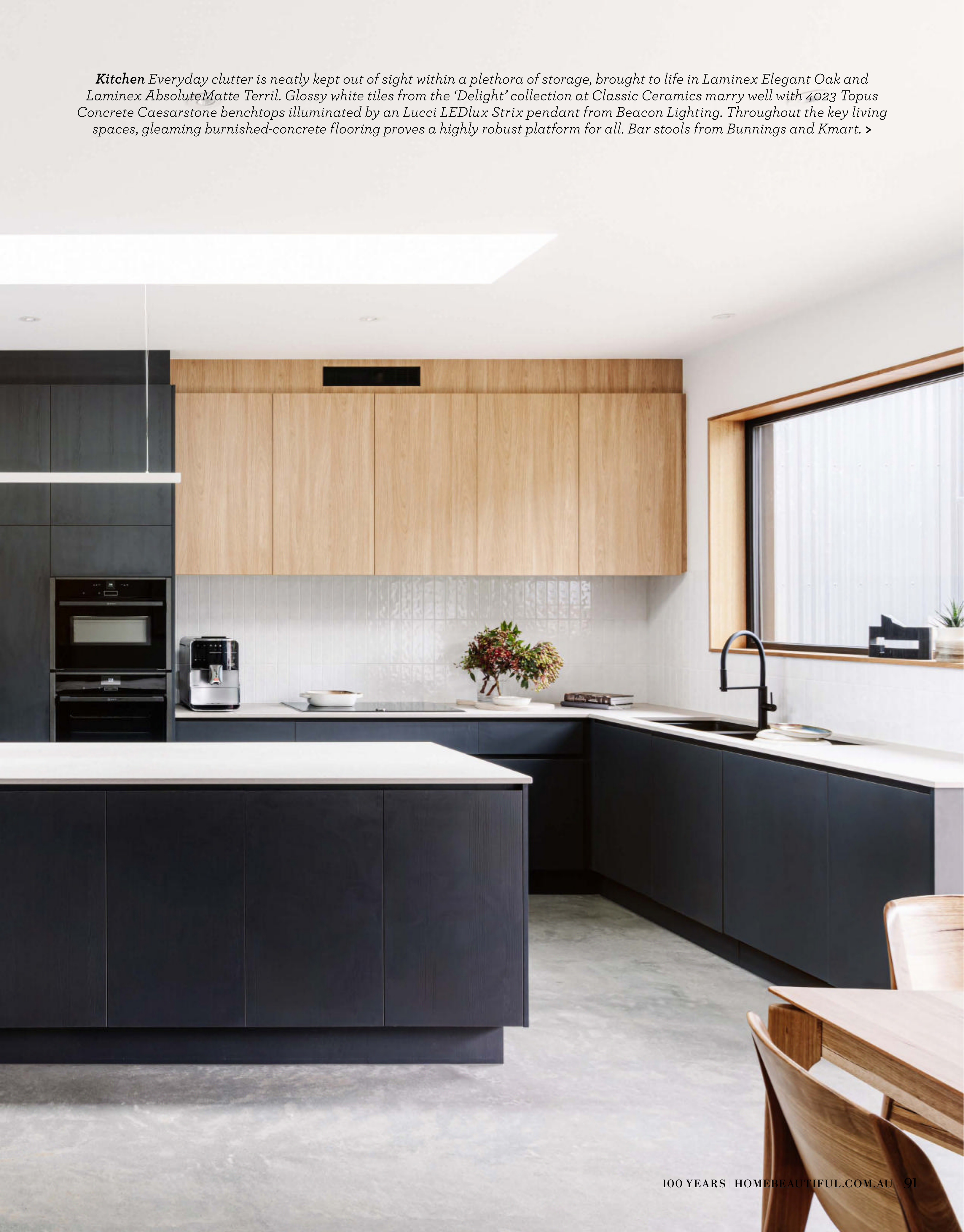
With Studiofang also charged with overseeing the home's interiors, and builder Sanctum Homes taking on the construction, the family was ready to move in by late 2022.

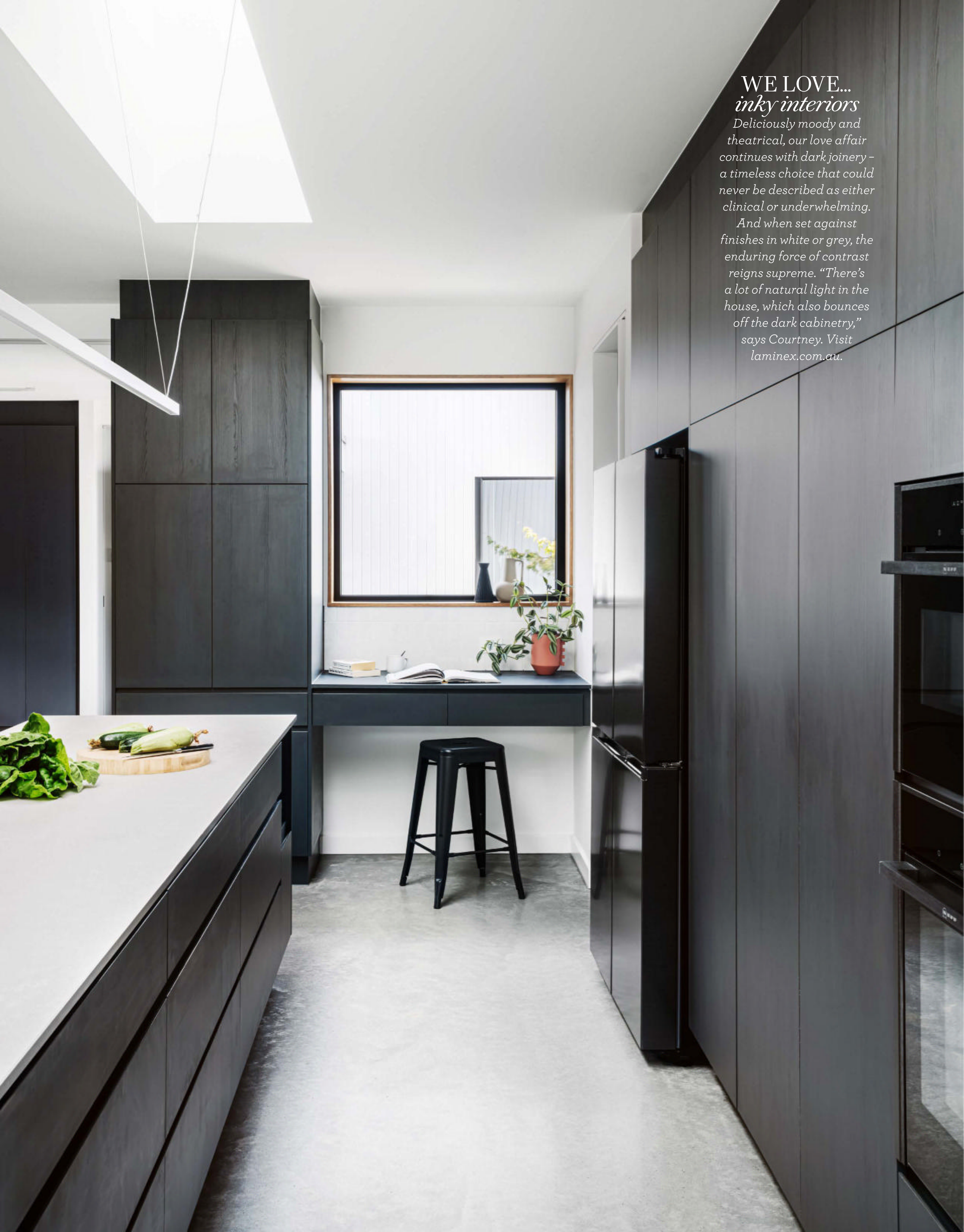
Every corner is considered, while warmth comes in the form of organic materials. It's not surprising the couple find it difficult to imagine ever parting with their home. "There's very little – if anything – we would change," says Andrew, as Courtney adds: "I think this house is our legacy for our daughter. Hopefully it will be here for the next 100 years." HB ***For more stunning homes, visit www.homebeautiful.com.au.***

Entry *A private courtyard is a focal point at the entrance where sawn Bluestone pavers from Bulleen Art & Garden lead to the door.* ***Reading room*** *Courtney and Golden Retriever Nina (pictured opposite) in the reading room. Custom shelving in Laminex Elegant Oak, teamed with joinery in Laminex AbsoluteMatte Terril, allows opportunity to personalise the domain. The comfortable 'Space' leather recliner from Berkowitz Furniture is a favourite piece, while the two black tables were budget-friendly Kmart finds.* >

> “THE PRINCIPLES OF PASSIVE BUILDING WERE VERY IMPORTANT TO US. WE KNEW WE COULD DO BETTER THAN THE STANDARD BUILD REQUIREMENTS, AND THAT WAS THE DRIVING FACTOR” **COURTNEY, HOMEOWNER**

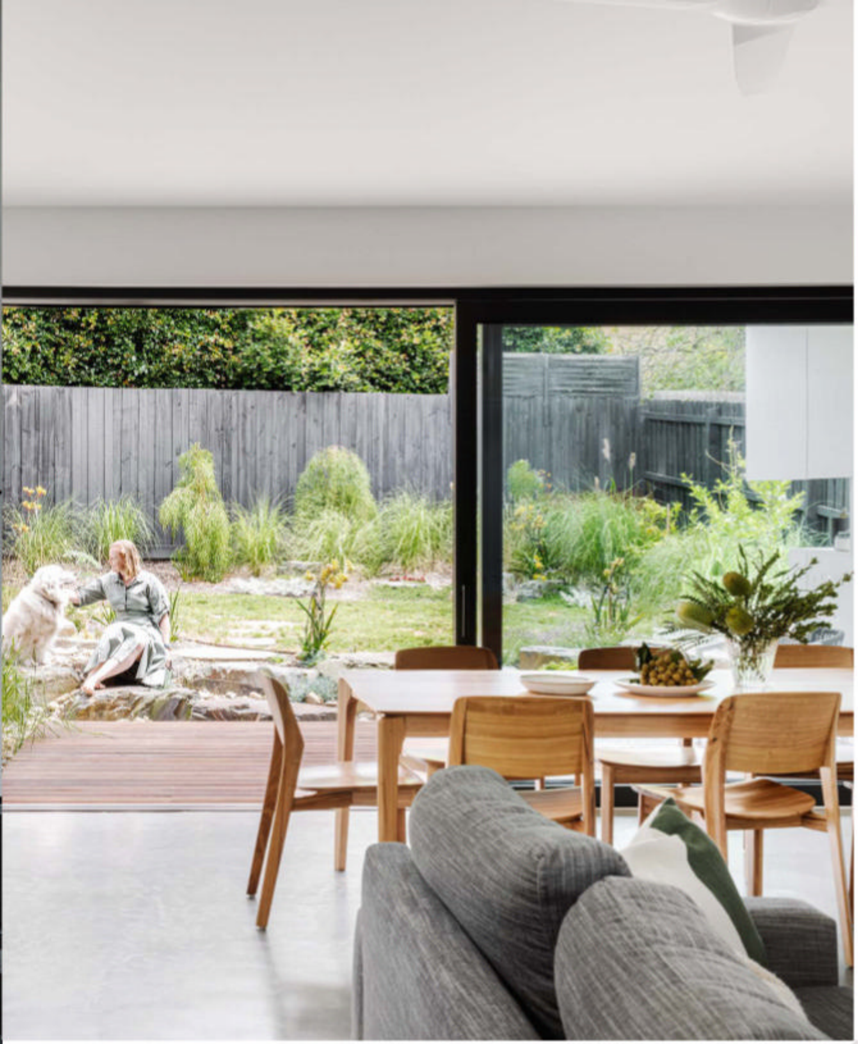
Kitchen Everyday clutter is neatly kept out of sight within a plethora of storage, brought to life in Laminex Elegant Oak and Laminex AbsoluteMatte Terril. Glossy white tiles from the 'Delight' collection at Classic Ceramics marry well with 4023 Topus Concrete Caesarstone benchtops illuminated by an Lucci LEDlux Strix pendant from Beacon Lighting. Throughout the key living spaces, gleaming burnished-concrete flooring proves a highly robust platform for all. Bar stools from Bunnings and Kmart. >*





WE LOVE... *inky interiors*

Deliciously moody and theatrical, our love affair continues with dark joinery – a timeless choice that could never be described as either clinical or underwhelming. And when set against finishes in white or grey, the enduring force of contrast reigns supreme. "There's a lot of natural light in the house, which also bounces off the dark cabinetry," says Courtney. Visit laminex.com.au.



INSIDE STORY
Courtney & Andrew

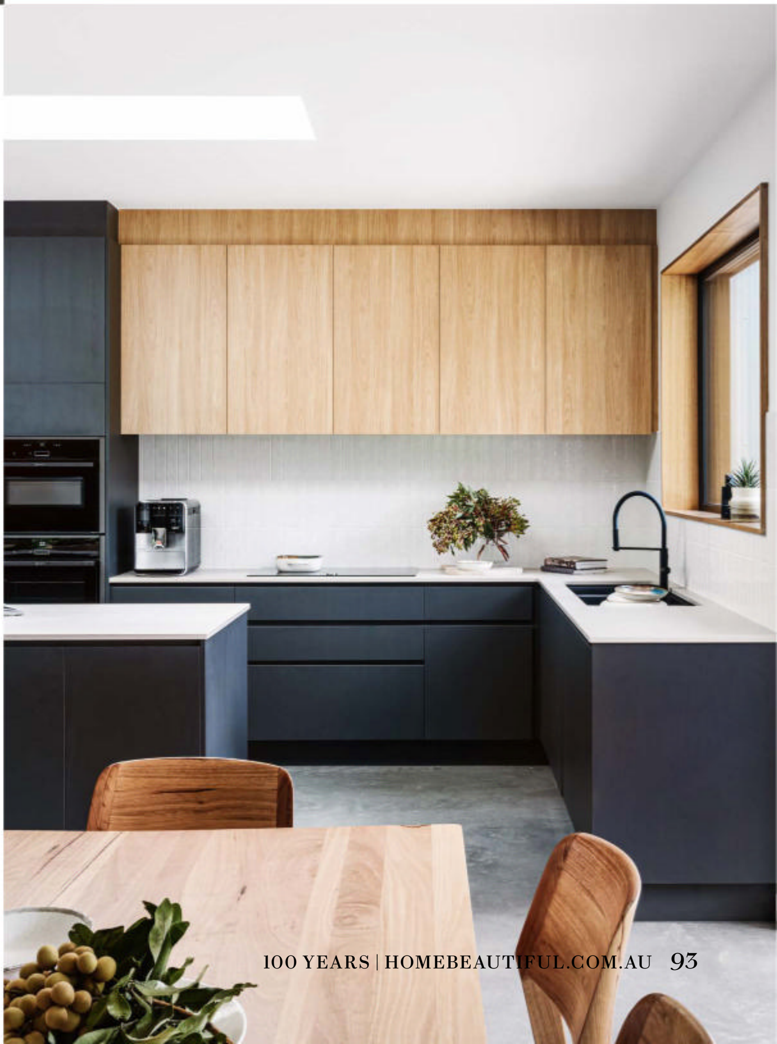
Who lives here?
Courtney and Andrew, who work in the medical and engineering fields respectively, and their young daughter, plus Nina the Golden Retriever.

What's the best thing about living in a home with passive design principles?
Andrew: "That it retains a very comfortable temperature year-round. It's never too hot or too cold, despite whatever the weather is doing outside."
Courtney: "The house always feels inviting and comfortable. It really is a sanctuary away from the rest of the world."

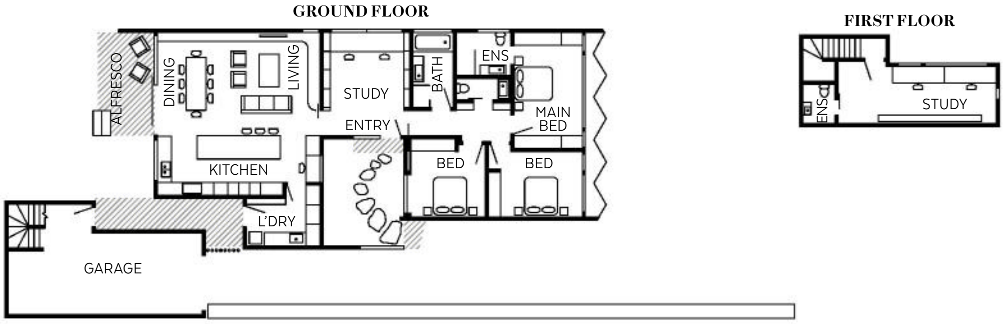
Anything left on the wish list?
Courtney: "We'd love to have a bit more cabinetry in the lounge."
Andrew: "And the garage still has to be painted."

> "THE INSPIRATION OF THE DESIGN WAS INITIALLY A TICKET STUB, WHERE THE SERRATED EDGES LEAD TO ANOTHER TICKET ATTACHED TO IT" **FANG, ARCHITECT**

Dining *Greenery is ever-present in the peaceful home. Maximising the connection to the sunny rear garden, where Courtney (top left) sits with Nina, this voluminous dining space features the 'Paddington' table and chairs in solid Australian messmate timber from Designer Timber Furniture. "We use this area all the time and love the fact that it opens out so easily to the outdoors," says Courtney. The sofa seen in the foreground has been owned by the couple for some time.* ***Kitchen*** *In the epicentre of family life, form certainly does meet function. "There's so much space – and I'm a baker – so I love to use all of the bench," says Courtney of the kitchen (right & opposite). "It's an amazing kitchen to cook and entertain in."* >

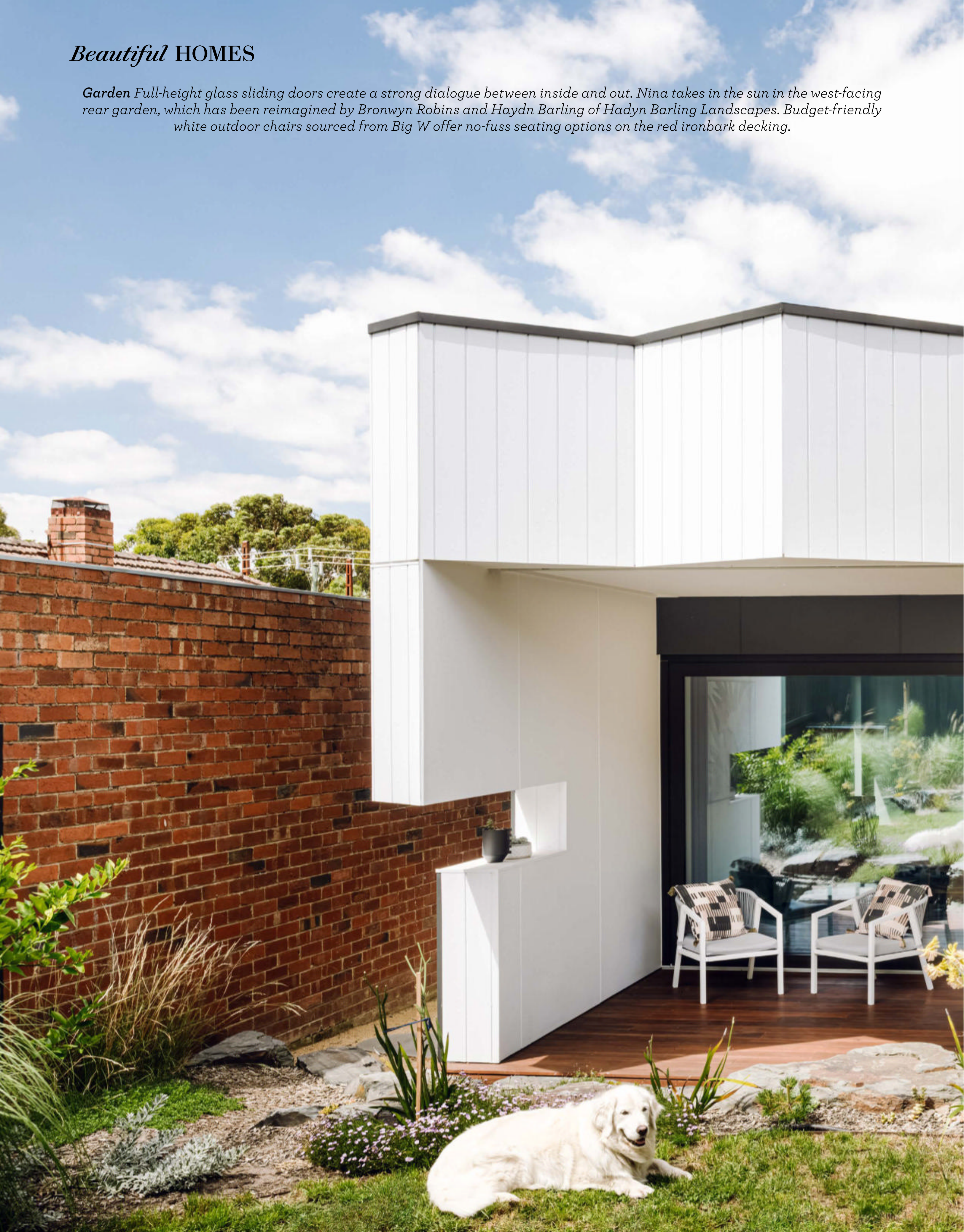


FLOOR PLAN

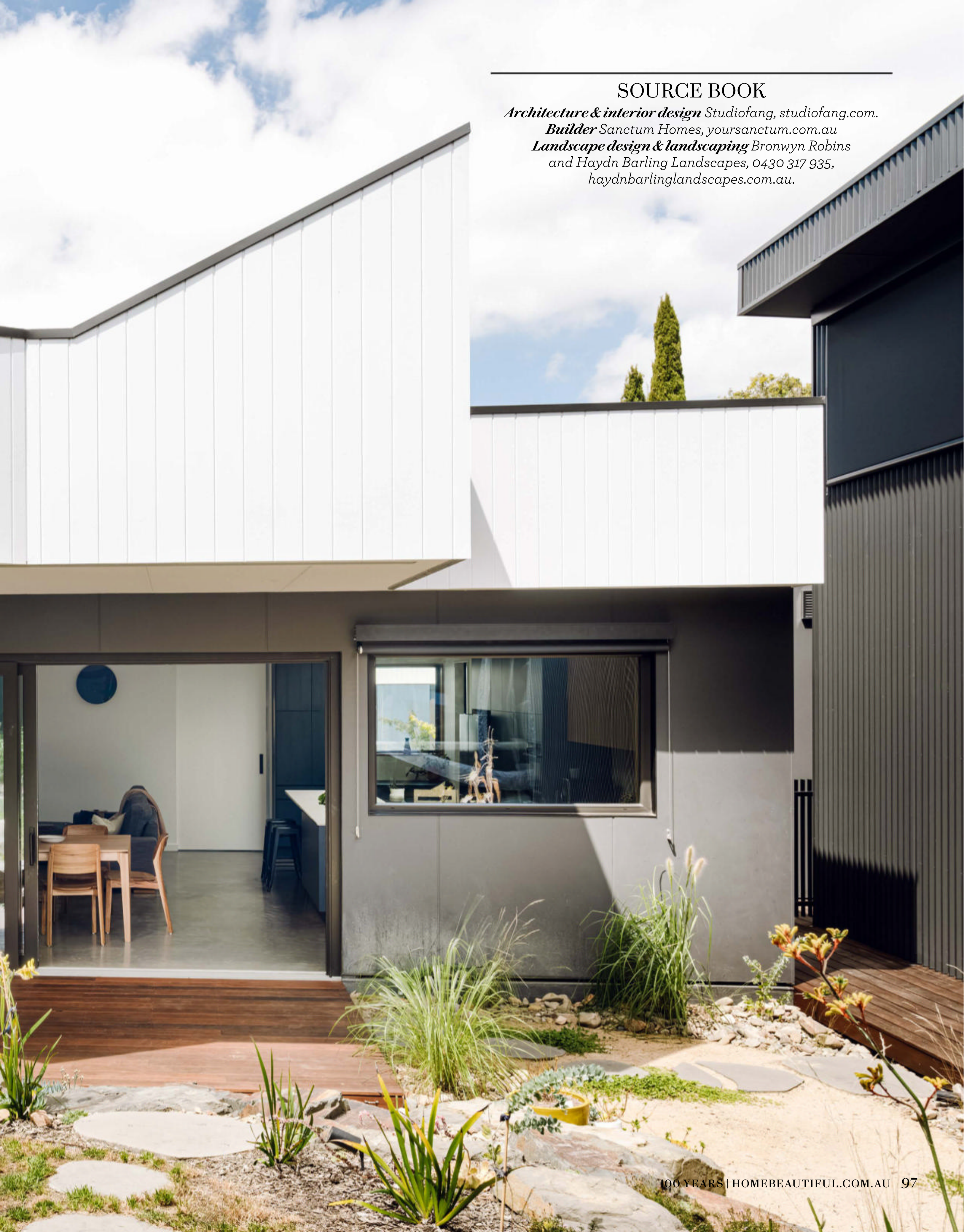

GROUND FLOOR
ALFRESCO
DINING
LIVING
STUDY
BATH
ENS
ENTRY
MAIN BED
KITCHEN
BED
BED
L'DRY
GARAGE
FIRST FLOOR
ENS
STUDY

Main bedroom *"Our room overlooks the reserve across the road, which is really quite beautiful," says Courtney of the main bedroom (this page). Echoing the greenery is a wall in Dulux Dollar. "We also went for green walls in our daughter's room, as well as in the playroom," she says. Polytec Legato joinery in Crisp White. Printed floral sheets from Adairs, linen pillow by Macey & Moore, throw from Linens Unlimited.* ***Ensuite*** *Notes of organic colour and texture unfold through the home, and the couple's tranquil ensuite (opposite) is no exception. Here, the walls and floors are clad in white terrazzo tiles from The Tile Gallery, partnered with a vanity top in Caeasarstone Organic White. Tapware by Phoenix, waffle towel from In The Sac and linen hand towel from Linens Unlimited.* **>**

“HAVING A CLEAN SLATE TO CUSTOM-BUILD SOMETHING JUST FOR OUR FAMILY WAS REALLY EXCITING” **COURTNEY**



Garden *Full-height glass sliding doors create a strong dialogue between inside and out. Nina takes in the sun in the west-facing rear garden, which has been reimagined by Bronwyn Robins and Haydn Barling of Hadyn Barling Landscapes. Budget-friendly white outdoor chairs sourced from Big W offer no-fuss seating options on the red ironbark decking.*



SOURCE BOOK

Architecture & interior design *Studiofang, studiofang.com.*
Builder *Sanctum Homes, yoursanctum.com.au*
Landscape design & landscaping *Bronwyn Robins and Haydn Barling Landscapes, 0430 317 935, haydnbarlinglandscapes.com.au.*

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PHOTOGRAPHY PABLO VEIGA

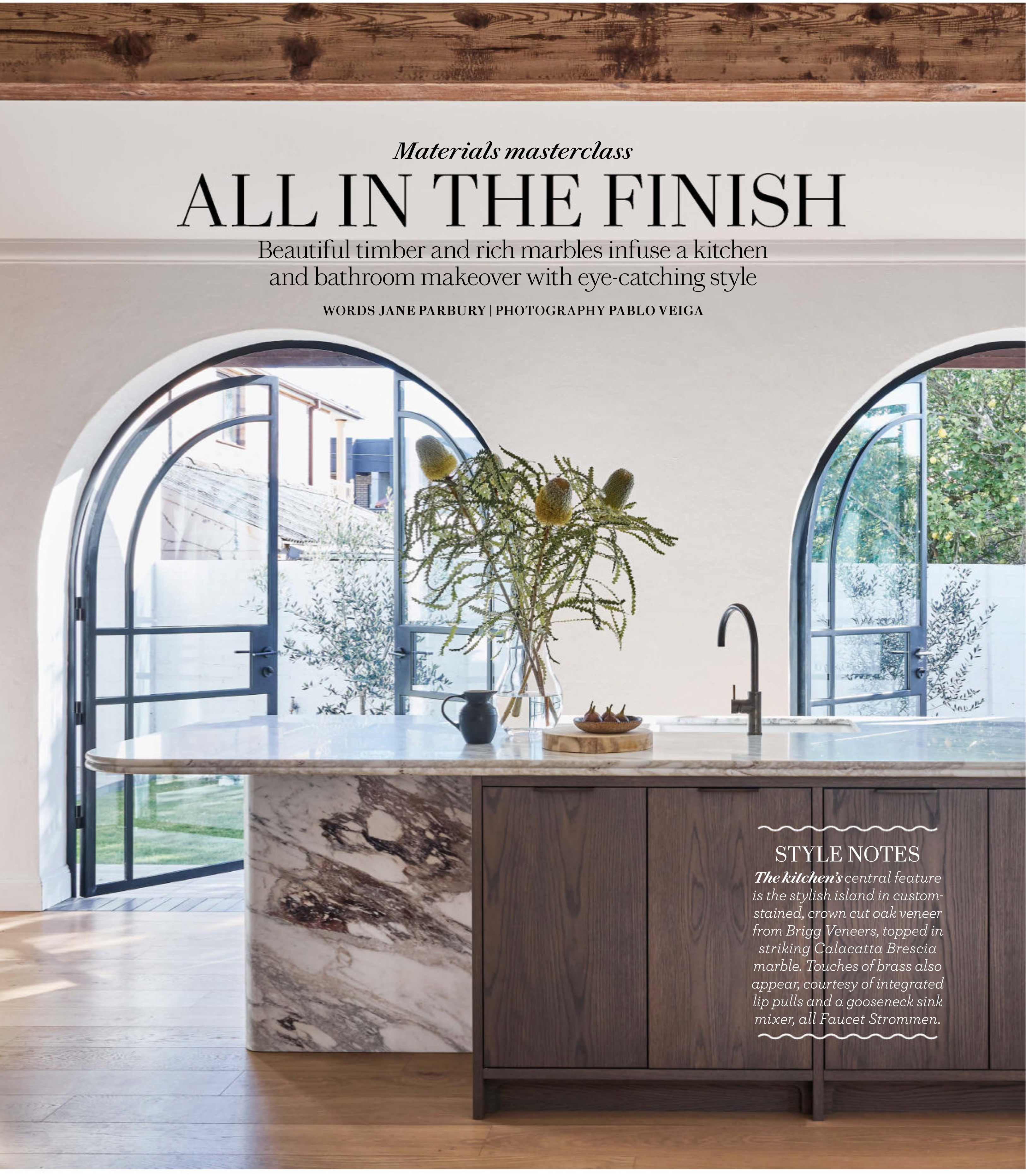
ALL IN THE FINISH
PAGE 102 →

Materials masterclass

ALL IN THE FINISH

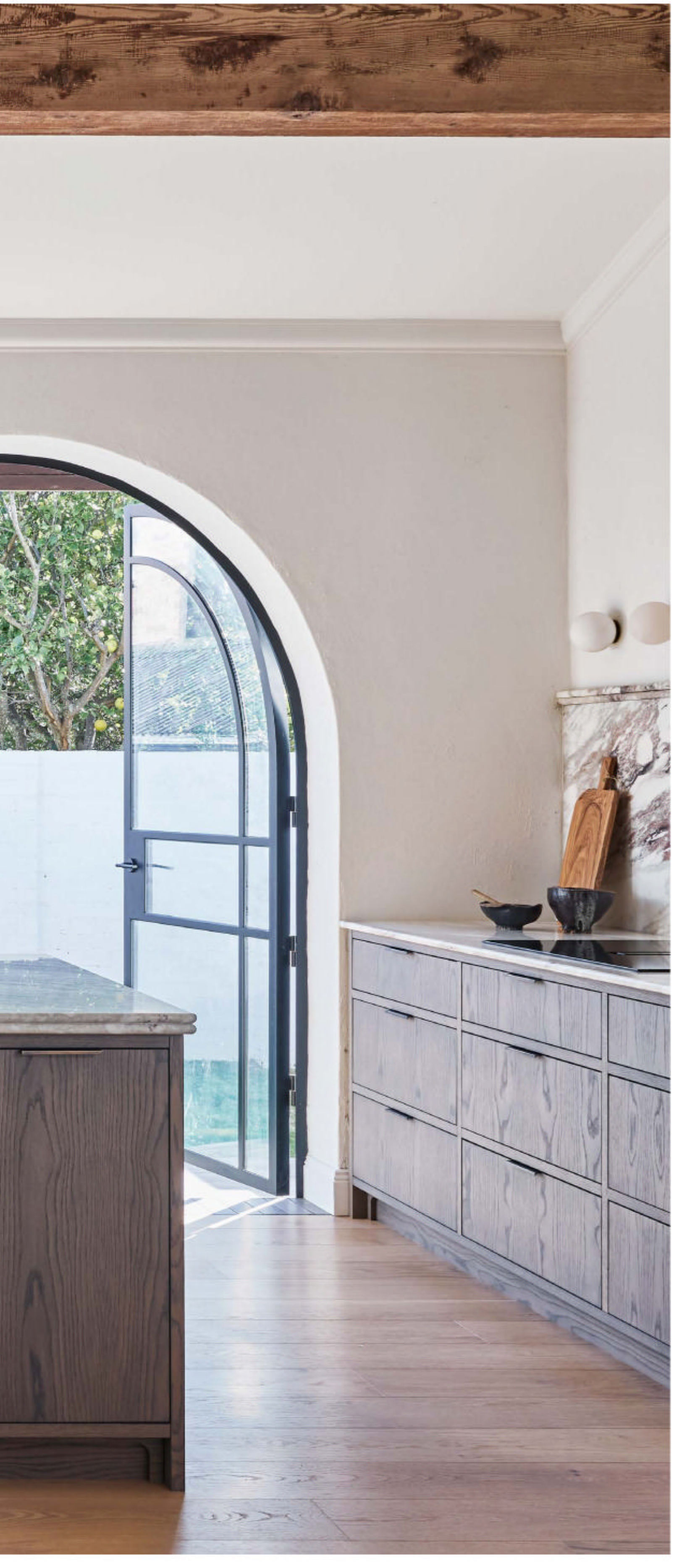
Beautiful timber and rich marbles infuse a kitchen and bathroom makeover with eye-catching style

WORDS **JANE PARBURY** | PHOTOGRAPHY **PABLO VEIGA**



STYLE NOTES

The kitchen's *central feature is the stylish island in custom-stained, crown cut oak veneer from Brigg Veneers, topped in striking Calacatta Brescia marble. Touches of brass also appear, courtesy of integrated lip pulls and a gooseneck sink mixer, all Faucet Strommen.*



This stunning kitchen, part of a renovation to a Sydney home by Blue Tea Kitchens & Bathrooms, is proof you don't need swathes of colour to give interiors interest. Neutral in tone, the kitchen's new look includes curved motifs that speak to the home's history, and tactile timber and lavishly veined marble that suffuse the space with style. A similar approach was given to the new bathroom. "The brief was to create an enriching, textured space that kept the overall feeling minimal and easy to use, with an interesting and layered palette," explains head designer Nadia Hursky.

Room refresh

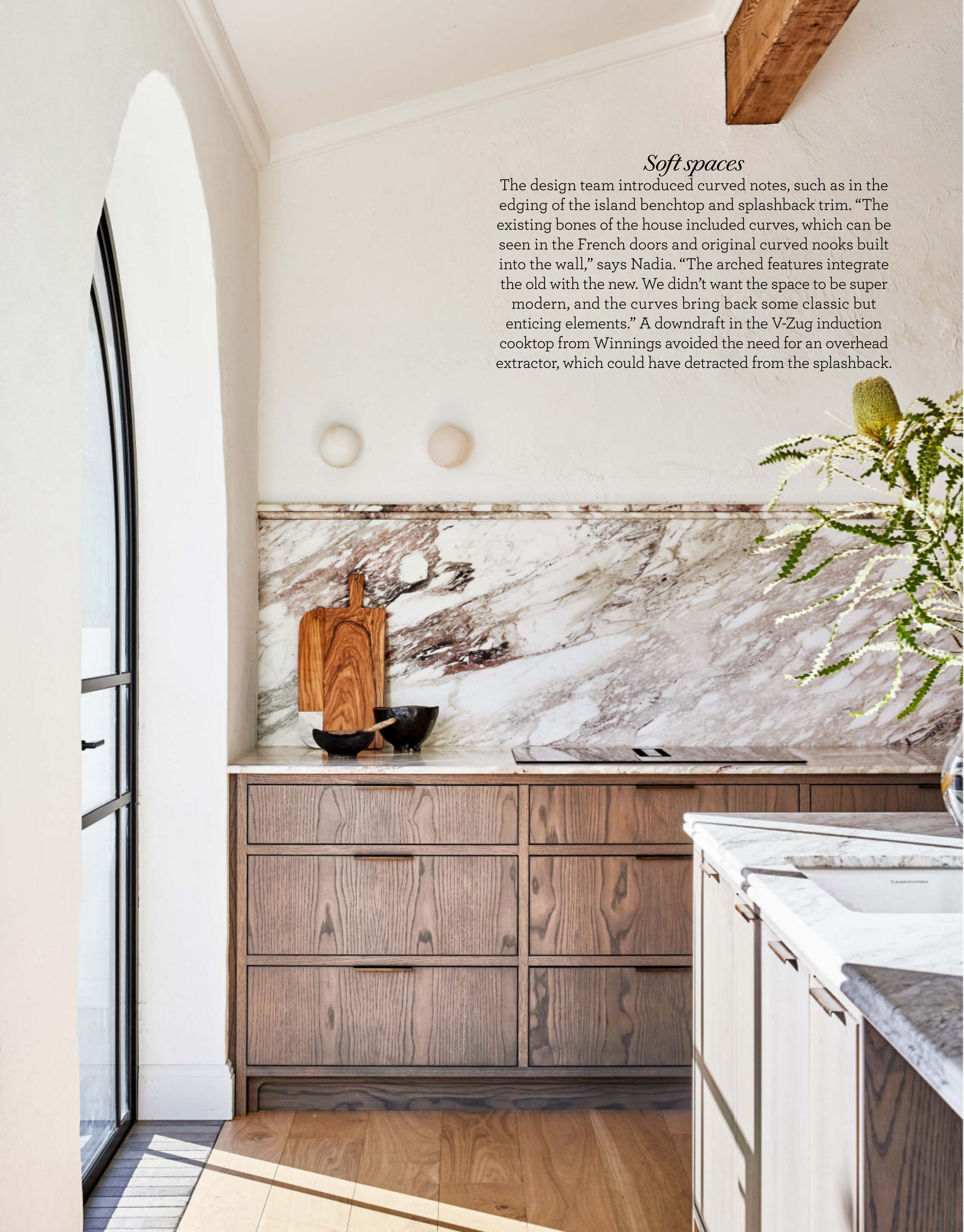
The starting point in the kitchen was to remove cabinetry that divided the cooking and living zones, and to replace windows and a single portal with custom arched doors by Sydney Steel Gallery. There's now a sense of openness, light and views. "The kitchen is visible as soon as you walk into the home, so we wanted it to have a strong presence but not be too colourful or too plain," says Nadia. "We also didn't want to overcrowd it, so we left out overhead cabinets and instead let the materials speak for themselves."

Design heroes

Nadia chose custom-stained oak veneer joinery and Brescia marble benchtops and splashbacks for its opulent veining and hues. "Overall, the marble is white with varying shades of grey running through the stone, as well as soft creams and burgundy," she explains. "We selected the burgundy portion for the curved island feature so there was a hint of colour below the eye level." Brass integrated handles and exposed framing details deliver further depth and texture.

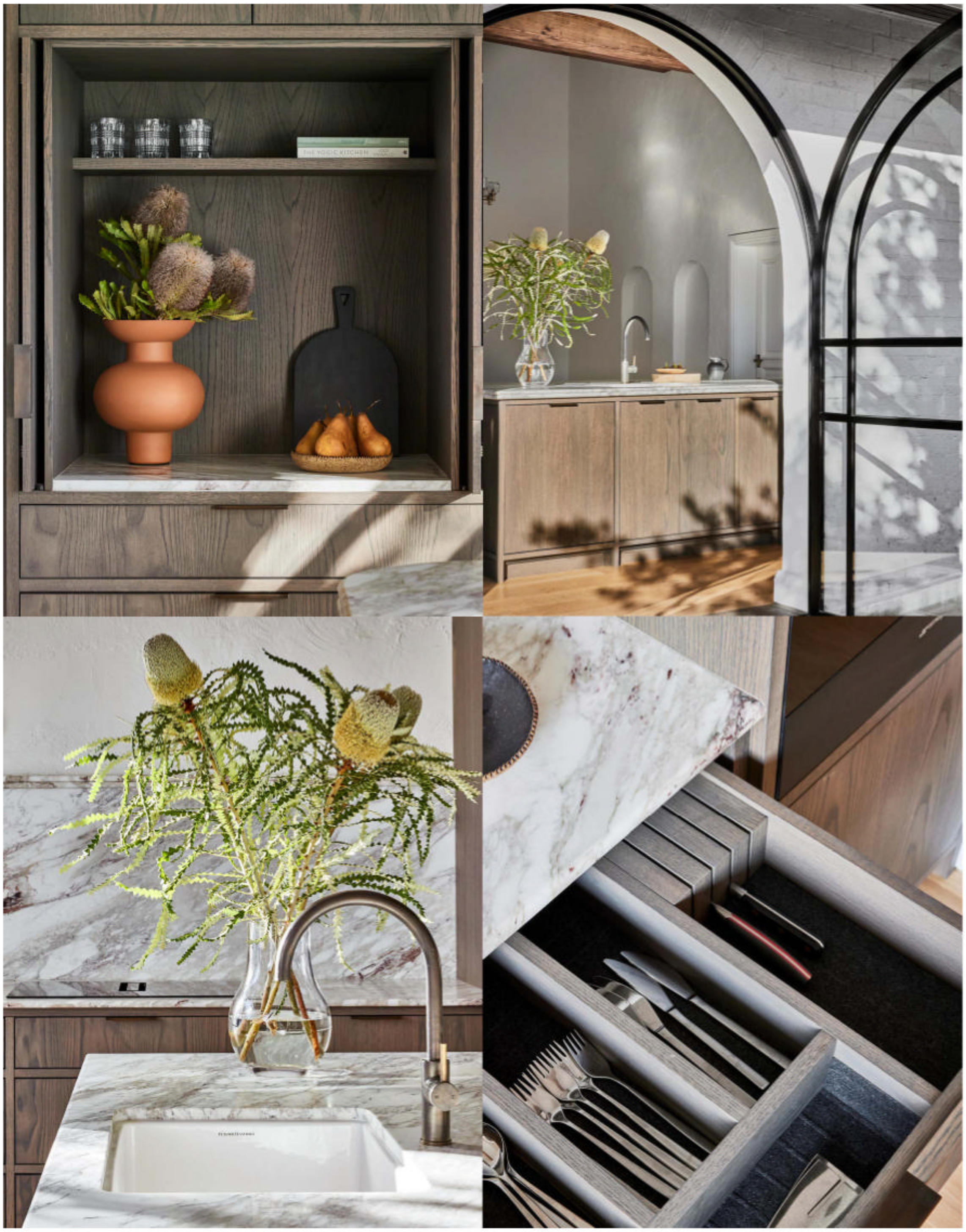
Features forward

The existing structural beams were stained dark red, which felt heavy in the space. "We experimented with different methods of removing the dark stain from the beams and came across a process called soda blasting, which was extremely fast and rewarding," says Nadia. Brought back to their natural state, they are now finished in a neutral matt lacquer and contribute another timber highlight that complements the original oak flooring and new cabinetry. >



Soft spaces

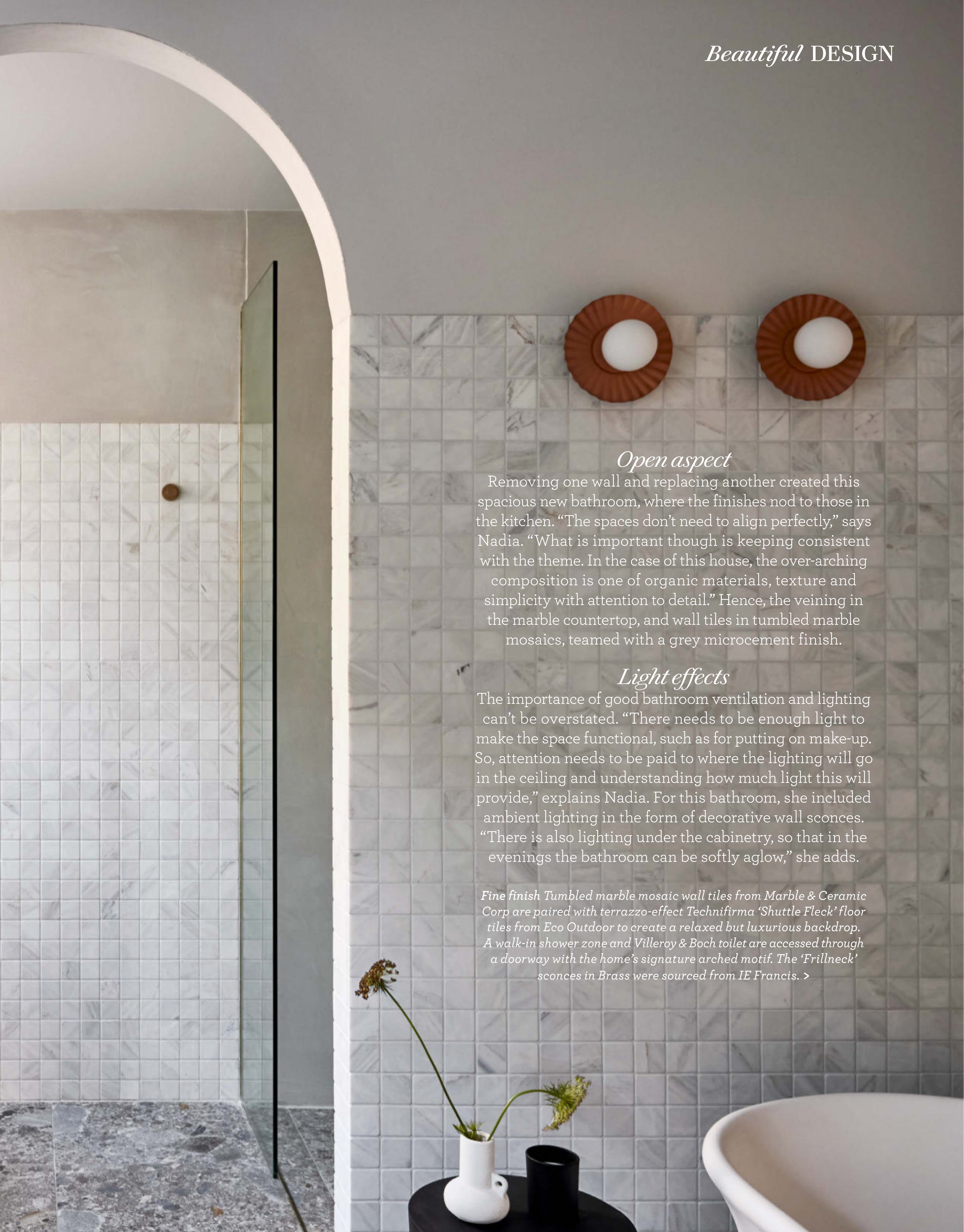
The design team introduced curved notes, such as in the edging of the island benchtop and splashback trim. "The existing bones of the house included curves, which can be seen in the French doors and original curved nooks built into the wall," says Nadia. "The arched features integrate the old with the new. We didn't want the space to be super modern, and the curves bring back some classic but enticing elements." A downdraft in the V-Zug induction cooktop from Winnings avoided the need for an overhead extractor, which could have detracted from the splashback.



Planning perspectives *Good storage is key to good kitchen design, and in this space shelving and display areas help break up a solid run of cabinetry (top left). Nadia also points to the necessity of understanding how the room will be used by its owners. "This ensures there is easy movement within the space, and that the kitchen remains uncluttered and functional," she says of the circulation and flow (top right). A 'Cuisine 68' fireclay sink from Turner Hastings is a practical but unobtrusive addition to the island bench (bottom left). Functional beauty is also in the details; here, a knife block becomes an integral part of the cutlery drawer (bottom right).* **>**

DESIGNER'S TIP

For timeless *designs, Nadia prefers high-quality tiles and tapware. "It will increase the cost, but the majority of the budget will be in the trades, so it's a small investment overall to increase the quality and longevity of the space," she says.*



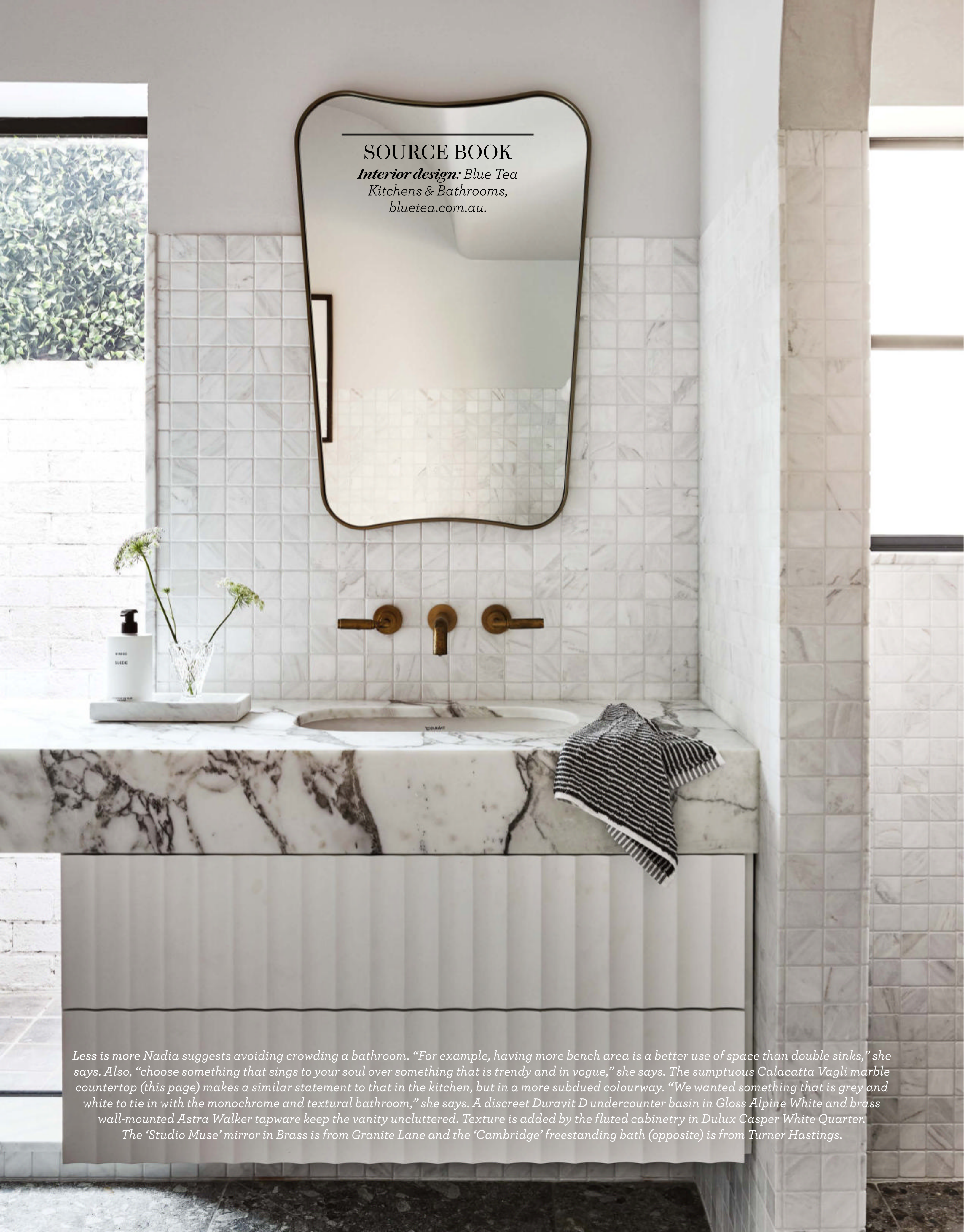
Open aspect

Removing one wall and replacing another created this spacious new bathroom, where the finishes nod to those in the kitchen. “The spaces don’t need to align perfectly,” says Nadia. “What is important though is keeping consistent with the theme. In the case of this house, the over-arching composition is one of organic materials, texture and simplicity with attention to detail.” Hence, the veining in the marble countertop, and wall tiles in tumbled marble mosaics, teamed with a grey microcement finish.

Light effects

The importance of good bathroom ventilation and lighting can’t be overstated. “There needs to be enough light to make the space functional, such as for putting on make-up. So, attention needs to be paid to where the lighting will go in the ceiling and understanding how much light this will provide,” explains Nadia. For this bathroom, she included ambient lighting in the form of decorative wall sconces. “There is also lighting under the cabinetry, so that in the evenings the bathroom can be softly aglow,” she adds.

Fine finish *Tumbled marble mosaic wall tiles from Marble & Ceramic Corp are paired with terrazzo-effect Technifirma ‘Shuttle Fleck’ floor tiles from Eco Outdoor to create a relaxed but luxurious backdrop. A walk-in shower zone and Villeroy & Boch toilet are accessed through a doorway with the home’s signature arched motif. The ‘Frillneck’ sconces in Brass were sourced from IE Francis.* >



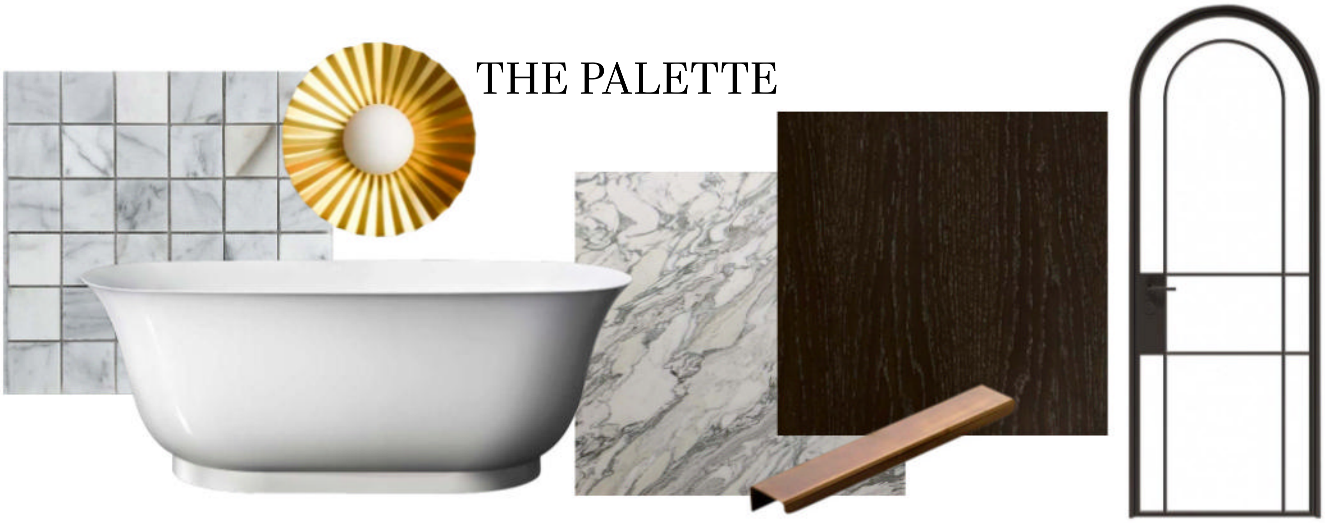
SOURCE BOOK

Interior design: *Blue Tea Kitchens & Bathrooms, bluetea.com.au.*

Less is more *Nadia suggests avoiding crowding a bathroom. "For example, having more bench area is a better use of space than double sinks," she says. Also, "choose something that sings to your soul over something that is trendy and in vogue," she says. The sumptuous Calacatta Vagli marble countertop (this page) makes a similar statement to that in the kitchen, but in a more subdued colourway. "We wanted something that is grey and white to tie in with the monochrome and textural bathroom," she says. A discreet Duravit D undercounter basin in Gloss Alpine White and brass wall-mounted Astra Walker tapware keep the vanity uncluttered. Texture is added by the fluted cabinetry in Dulux Casper White Quarter. The 'Studio Muse' mirror in Brass is from Granite Lane and the 'Cambridge' freestanding bath (opposite) is from Turner Hastings.*

ARTWORK 'THE GIRLFRIEND FOR HIGH SPIRITS' BY ISABELLE FELIU

THE PALETTE



From left *'Calacatta Gold Stacked Marble'* ***mosaics*** *(305mm x 305mm), $36.40/sheet, Stone & Tile Projects. Studio 1 'Hampton' 1700mm* ***bath****, $1799, Harvey Norman. 'Frillneck'* ***sconce*** *in Brass, $340, Lighting Collective. Arabescato* ***marble****, from $1045/sqm, CDK Stone. 'Ferrara' lip pull* ***handle*** *in Burnt Bronze, $44.85/200mm, Touch Handles. Crown-cut* ***veneer*** *in Smoked Oak, Briggs Veneers. 'Casa Arch I' steel* ***door****, from $2050/210cm x 70cm, Sydney Steel Gallery.* HB

Buyer's guide

THE CONNECTED HOME

Running a streamlined, organised household? There's an app for that! Read on for the the latest home smart tech

WORDS VICTORIA KINGSBURY

Human beings have never been as connected as we are in 2025. Over the decades, I think we can all agree, innovation in technology has made our lives much easier, especially in the home. Convenience is now at our fingertips with a tap, clap or voice command, and security has become tighter than ever.

In a 2023 study by Telsyte* it was found that despite the cost-of-living challenges, Australians are still investing in smart technology, with no signs of it slowing down. The study estimated that 7.6 million homes now have at least one smart home product and the industry could hit $2.5 billion in revenue.

So what's the big deal? Why are so many of us seeking a more connected home and lifestyle? It seems we are most concerned about energy efficiency, security and a more convenient lifestyle. Read on for our guide to the biggest game changers in connected home technology, whether you want to start small or integrate a more complex system.

Energy efficiency

We all want to know how we can cut down on our energy bills and save on costs, improving energy efficiency, and reducing environmental impact is important to many as well. The good news is there are lots of options to help you run a more efficient home. Energy and HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning) sensors, air quality monitors, smart EV (Electric Vehicle) charging stations, battery storage are all popular additions to the home. And if you're not ready to make big changes just yet, there are simpler ways to make small changes, such as using smart plugs that can help manage energy efficiency by turning any appliance into a smart appliance. You can set routines so your technology turns on or off at certain times, and you can even track your energy consumption for each device so you can calculate electricity costs and see where you could lower your energy bills.

Convenience

Modern life is busy, so it's no surprise that connected home living is so desirable. Large appliances, such as fridges and washing machines are readily available with smart capabilities, such as allowing you to see what's in your fridge via an app and reminding you to buy more milk or when something is about to pass its use-by date. Robot vacuums have also seen a surge in popularity. The Telsyte study found that nearly one in five households now have a vacuum robot. And when it comes to our gadgets doing all the hard work, dedicated smart home automation hubs help to control all your devices at once. "Connected home products are an amazing technology that take the stress out of everyday life, from garage gate openers and keyless entry to the home, to Google reading out a recipe on the Nest hub, to setting up routines like blinds opening and closing at a certain time or lights turning on," says a representative from Harvey Norman, who adds that being able to voice control your home is also a great benefit for people who have accessibility needs. >

PHOTOGRAPHY KRISTINA SOLJO STYLIST KERRIE-ANN JONES
*TELSYTE AUSTRALIAN SMART HOME MARKET STUDY 2023

Timed lights, lighting and speaker settings for routines or even for when you are entertaining are easy to set up and can make everyday tasks that little bit easier – and fun!

SMART SHOPPING

LG 508L French Door InstaView Door-in-Door ***fridge****, $3959, Appliances Online. Knock twice to peek inside and use LG's ThinQ for remote-control convenience.*

Lorex 2K wired floodlight security ***camera****, $347, Officeworks. Features great picture quality, adjustable LEDs and an array of security features.*

Eufy 'E330' security video ***smart lock****, $598, Harvey Norman. Features fingerprint recognition, a 2K HD camera and video doorbell, all via the Eufy Security app.*

Swann wifi ***window/door sensor****, $48, Harvey Norman. Alerts you to any entry activity through doors or windows via the Swann Security app.*

EufyCam S3 Pro 4-camera ***security camera****, $2498, Harvey Norman. Monitor your home with clear images day and night. Includes solar charging and radar detection.*

Connect SmartHome garage door ***remote*** *with sensor, $48, Harvey Norman. Control your garage door via smart phone, voice commands or the included remote.*

TP-Link Deco 'BE11000' whole home ***mesh wifi 7 system****, $1098/pack of 3, Harvey Norman. Improve wifi speed, connectivity and coverage.*

Lorex 2K indoor wifi security ***camera****, $87, Officeworks. This plug-in camera features person detection and two-way talk.*

TP-Link 'Tapo' B22 Multicolour Smart Wifi ***light bulb****, $32/for 2, Harvey Norman. Set up lighting routines and choose from multiple hues and brightness settings.*

Dreame A1 robotic ***lawnmower****, $3999, Amazon. Use the DreamhomeApp to map out your lawn and watch on as the robot cuts the grass for you.*

i.Pet automatic ***pet feeder video*** *6L in White, $139.95, Myer. Schedule feed times for your pet and keep an eye on them with photo and video capture.*

Chapman ***side table*** *in Ash Tree, $499, Myer. A stylish, portable table that allows you to play music, make phone calls and wirelessly charge devices.*

WHAT'S TRENDING?

We asked the experts at Harvey Norman what the biggest connected home trends are for 2025, and what products you should start with (if you haven't already!).

1. More and more customers are looking for keyless entry and there is a wide range available from Eufy and Philips, offering finger print sensors to face recognition.

2. Consumers are also moving toward True security – wired systems so they record 24/7 – Swann has a great range of this technology from entry level to premium. You are also able to add wire-free cameras to this system.

3. The new category to launch in 2025 will be personal security/mobile security leading with Swann's active response personal alarm – now you will have the option to use this while out and about – pull the alarm and a loud 120-decibel siren will play and activate an SMS to your emergency contact. It's great for anyone travelling alone, or safety for kids coming home from school.

4. Outdoor smart lights are also a big trend. Eufy has a great range to dress up the home, garden and pathways. Lighting is also trending in the entertainment side from decorating the house ready for events or just pretty lighting to having smart pathway lighting and even strip lighting behind the TV to have an immersive entertainment room.

5. As you build out a connected home you will need a good networking system to run off, most people don't know that networking has a recommended amount of products that it runs on connected home, TVs, laptop, phone etc. Wifi 7 range is the latest that could also help future-proof your expansion of connected home.

PHOTOGRAPHY LOUISE ROCHE STYLING KYLIE JACKES

Security

Some of the most popular connected home products, unsurprisingly, are security solutions, such as surveillance cameras and alarms, indoor cameras and monitoring, window and door sensors, video doorbells and intercoms, smart locks and smart lighting, such as security floodlights. Motion detectors can now alert you if there's an intruder inside your home via a security app so you can alert the police. According to a Harvey Norman representative, indoor cameras "are becoming a big trend, from seeing which kid is stealing chocolate out of the fridge to watching pets and having two-way voice activation, even monitoring the elderly … so you can be alerted to movement and check if they've had a fall".

Window and door sensors are clever and popular additions to the home that are an easy way to give you peace of mind.

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BEAUTIFUL GARDENS

IDEAS AND INSPIRATION FOR STYLISH OUTDOOR LIVING

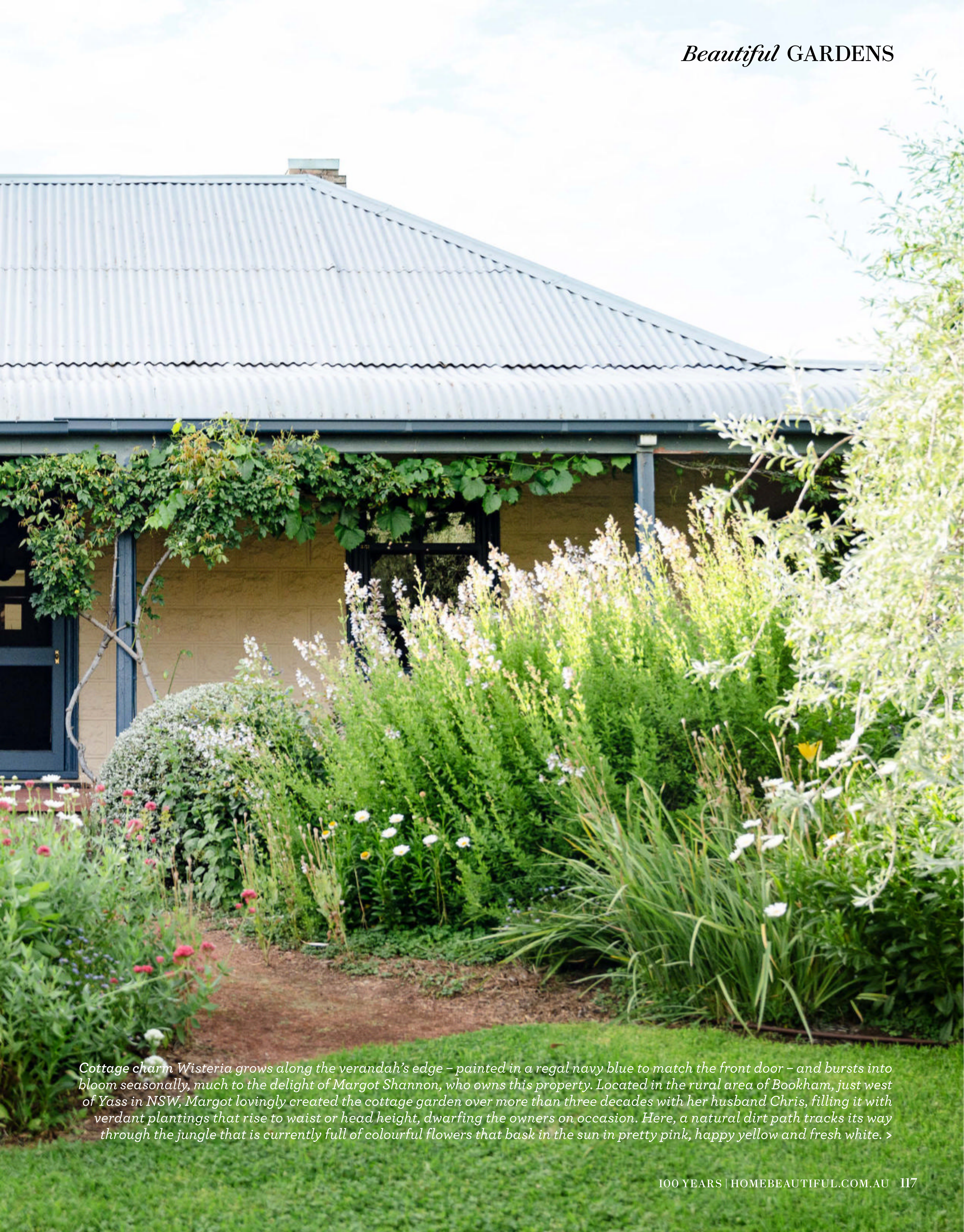
PHOTOGRAPHY MONIQUE LOVICK

FREE TO ROAM
PAGE 116
→

FREE TO ROAM

With a lifelong passion for gardening, Margot Shannon has grown and nurtured this brimming landscape in rural NSW for more than 30 years

STORY **STEPHANIE HOPE** | PHOTOGRAPHY **MONIQUE LOVICK**



Cottage charm Wisteria grows along the verandah's edge – painted in a regal navy blue to match the front door – and bursts into bloom seasonally, much to the delight of Margot Shannon, who owns this property. Located in the rural area of Bookham, just west of Yass in NSW, Margot lovingly created the cottage garden over more than three decades with her husband Chris, filling it with verdant plantings that rise to waist or head height, dwarfing the owners on occasion. Here, a natural dirt path tracks its way through the jungle that is currently full of colourful flowers that bask in the sun in pretty pink, happy yellow and fresh white. >

For their first wedding anniversary, Chris Shannon gifted his wife, Margot, an appointment with a landscape gardener. When they were married in 1992, the pair had moved into the main house on the Shannon family property of Talmo – a merino wool farm located in Bookham, NSW, about 30 minutes' drive west of Yass – and the gardens were a blank canvas.

"I think a garden makes a home," says Margot. "My father was a landscape contractor in Canberra and I had always grown up with a big garden. When I moved here, it was so much hotter than Canberra and the garden was small, with narrow beds and lots of concrete edges and paths. We wanted to establish a green haven around the house that would be an escape from the hot, dry paddocks."

Over the years, various landscape architects and designers, including Michael Bligh from Michael Bligh & Associates and Lisa Walmsley from Dog Trap Design, helped the couple come up with a functional layout that would allow for the practicalities of driveways and parking, without obstructing the beautiful surrounding views of the hillsides.

A pathway edged with buxus, prunus and teucrium was created, leading to the front verandah and a pergola Chris built. Big beds of anemone, catmint, love-in-a-mist, roses, salvia, sedum and self-seeded valerian soften and cool the home.

Her dad (now 92), has been a constant source of inspiration – and supplies. In the early days of her marriage, Margot would help in his landscaping business over summer. "Instead of getting paid, I would put in a big order for plants, which suited us well," she says. Many of the trees and hedges came from this arrangement, while other plants have been "begged, borrowed and stolen" from people's gardens, including a lilac hedge. "It was planted from suckers from my grandmother's garden that my mother then had in her garden. It flowers around my birthday and our wedding anniversary, which is lovely; I also carried lilac in my wedding bouquet."

These days, Margot is busy running her homewares store, Merchant Campbell, in Yass. But whenever she has the chance, she's out there deadheading, pottering and weeding, basking in the bird call of blackbirds, fairy-wrens, grey shrike-thrush and sparrows, and the "fantastic racket" of the frogs at night.

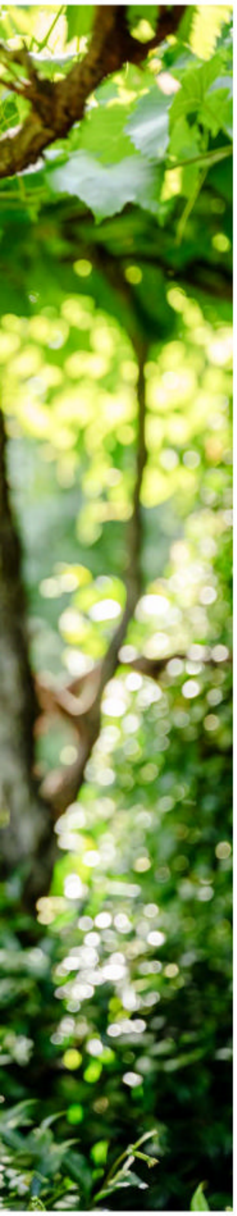
Green thumb *Her lifelong love of gardens definitely runs in the family for Margot (pictured). "My mother and father were both great gardeners," she shares. Her father also made a profession of it as a landscape contractor.* ***A riot of beauty*** *"It's not a grand garden – it's a rambly country garden, a shelter and an oasis," says Margot of the expansive space (opposite). "You can look from the garden to the hills around and never feel like you're anywhere but on the south-west slopes of New South Wales; you're very much in country."*

IN THE ZONE

The rambling garden is divided into zones by hedges, including feijoa, formal box, lilac, May bush and a tough, tall bay hedge. There's a veggie patch full of asparagus, herbs, rhubarb, shallots, spinach and strawberries, plus a fruit orchard and chook yard as well as an entertaining zone with a fire pit, gazebo, lounge setting and pool. >

> "AS A CHILD, VISITING MY GREAT-AUNTS AND GRANDMOTHERS, WE WOULD ALWAYS GO FOR A WALK AROUND THE GARDEN" **MARGOT**

A view beyond *The garden has a borrowed landscape with views of distant hillsides (below left & right), which are dotted with sheep and eucalypts.* ***Blowing in the wind*** *Wind chimes that hang from one of the established trees dance in the breeze (below, centre).* ***Combined blessings*** *Outdoor sculptures are dotted around the garden, such as the giant metallic pear (below right, background), which has a rustic patina. Meanwhile, white daisies flowering en masse make a bold statement among other more colourful blooms.* **>**



HARDY HEROES

The plants in this garden, such as roses (this page), were chosen for their ability to withstand the south-west slopes' scorching summers and frosty winters. "The whole theme is rinse and repeat," explains Margot of her approach to gardening. "If it works well, you'll see it again elsewhere. I don't have time for mollycoddling; I try to teach things to have deep roots and cope with the calcium-dense bore water."

1

2

3

4

FLORAL FANCIES

1. Acanthus spikes, also known as bear's breeches, have large lobed leaves and provide textural interest in the garden.
2. The couple's flower garden is popular with a host of different types of butterflies that flit between the flowering plants.
3. A red-flowering rose is a highlight and stands out against the bright foliage.
4. Delicate pink roses bloom among the verdant greenery, adding a soft touch.
5. White daisies stand to sharp attention in the garden in front of the verandah.
6. Rather than being eaten, the artichoke plants have been left to go to flower.
7. Six "crazy" resident guineafowl help to eradicate insects, and add character and a sense of fun to the couple's garden.
8. A collection of flowers grow together and create a meadow-like effect.

5

6

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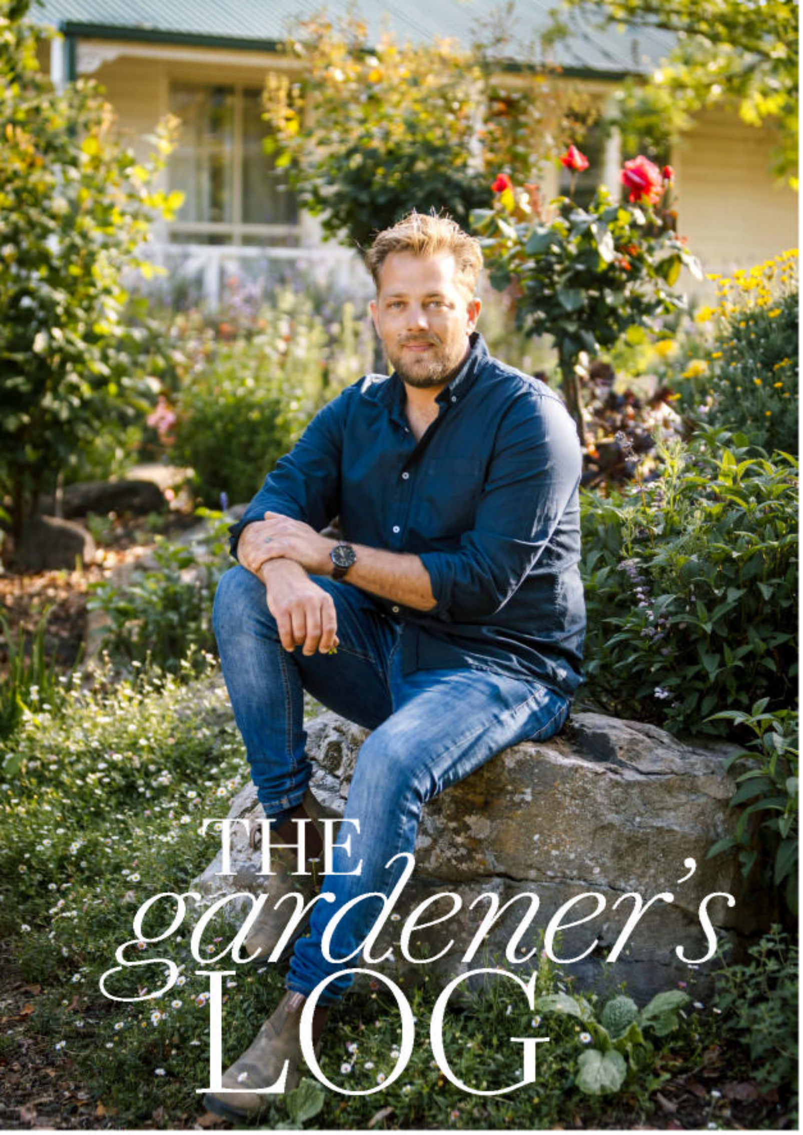


THE *gardener's* LOG

Our resident garden designer sheds light on the best ways to illuminate your garden and reveals everything you need to know about installing an irrigation system

WORDS **ASHLEY JAMES** | PHOTOGRAPHY **ALLIE ASZODI**

As the garden transforms into a living canvas of rich colours and textures, with leaves crunching underfoot, the air is tinged with a coolness that reminds us of the impending winter. Now we're at the final stages of our design journey, it's time to look at custom features, irrigation systems and garden lighting.

Time to measure up

Remember the old saying: 'measure twice, cut once'. Allow for essentials like your power outlets and water supplies, be mindful of underground services that could interfere with custom features, and plan for extras like concrete footings. Ensure prefabricated items can be relocated in your garden, which may involve measuring up side gates, carports, or seeking permission from a neighbour to access their yard.

The basics of irrigation

You have two main garden irrigation choices: drip line or sprays. Drip line irrigation consists of a poly pipe buried beneath the ground with individual drip heads spaced every 30cm. These drip heads are pressurised and deliver about two litres of water per hour. This method is effective in small gardens, sloping garden beds or areas exposed to winds. Spray irrigation comes in various forms, from pop-up sprays to larger risers that extend above the ground. Consider placing risers in corners to hide them from sight, and make sure you invest in an automated control system so your garden is cared for and watered when you're away.

Easy garden lighting ideas

I use hardwired 12-volt garden lights in my projects. They are a fantastic option for DIY enthusiasts, as they can be easily plugged into an external power point, are available in kit form and can be set up quickly. If you lack external power points and prefer not to hire an electrician, consider solar lights. Illuminate feature trees by using spike lights that shine up from the base to highlight the tree's foliage and structure, or use pathway lights to show the way.

Future-proof your garden

Even if you choose to postpone lighting and irrigation, make provisions for future installations. Before you invest thousands in a concrete driveway or brick pathway, create allowances for any future works by installing a small 90mm PVC crossover pipe to accommodate any future irrigation lines or lighting cables. Consider placing these pipes under pathways, beneath dividing lawns, or below any hard surfaces, such as concrete and decking. Clearly label both ends of these pipes on your garden design, including measurements, to easily identify in the future.

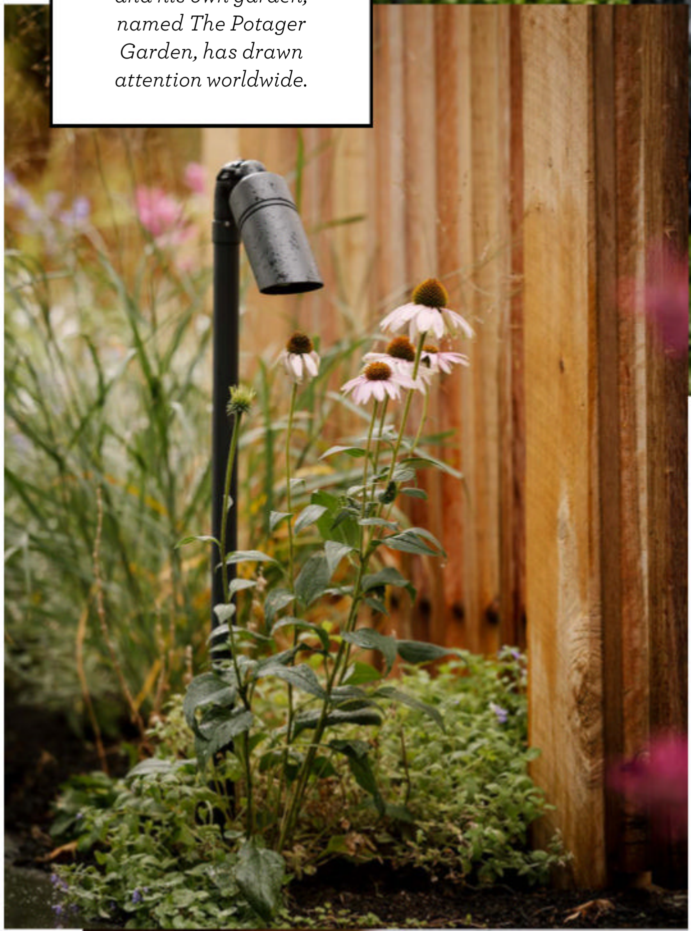
Ask for professional help

Reach out directly to suppliers with your garden design. They can collaborate with you and often develop a system and design that you can easily install at home. While you will need to purchase the products from these suppliers, they will provide you with all the fittings. You'll need a licensed professional to handle the hardwiring and installation of additional transformers or power points.

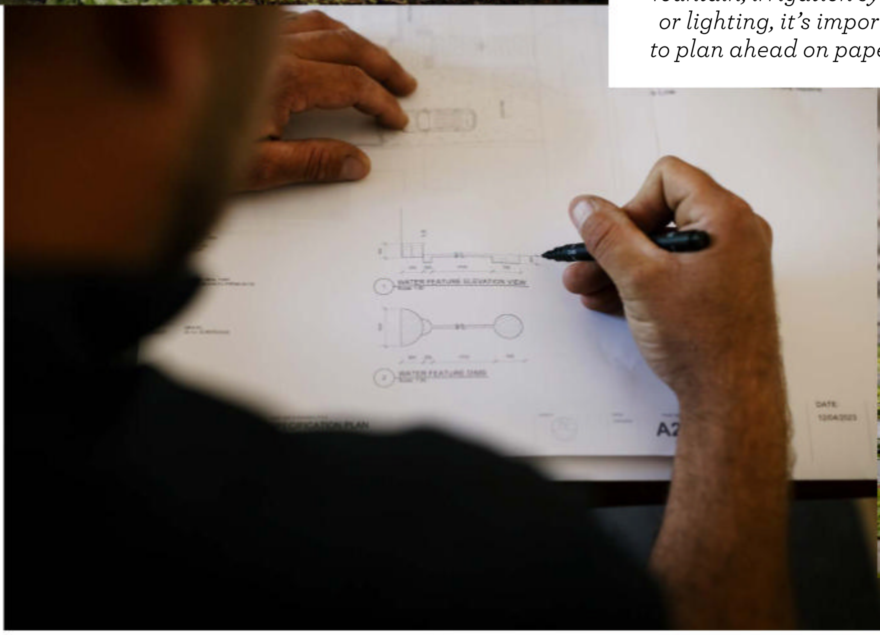
This will keep you busy if you're starting a garden, but if you have an established plot, here are some tasks for April:

Harvest seeds from spent flowers on your herbaceous perennials before pruning them. Clearly label and store them in a cool, dry place to plant out in later months.
Divide perennials such as cannas, daylilies and salvias.
Trim back any large evergreen hedges. However, wait until winter before pruning back any deciduous plants.

Ashley James (opposite) is a horticulturist and garden designer based in Victoria, who has gained a reputation for creating gardens in a vast range of styles, from romantic plots to bold urban spaces. He has appeared on a number of TV shows and his own garden, named The Potager Garden, has drawn attention worldwide.



Clockwise from left *Use lighting to highlight favourite features and paths in your garden, making sure the light source is positioned so it's pointed away from your gaze. Consider installing a water feature or a pond when you're creating your design for the soothing sounds of cascading water in your outdoor area. Flowing water is usually a better option than stagnant water, which can attract mosquitoes to your garden. Before installing any custom features, such as a water fountain, irrigation system or lighting, it's important to plan ahead on paper.*



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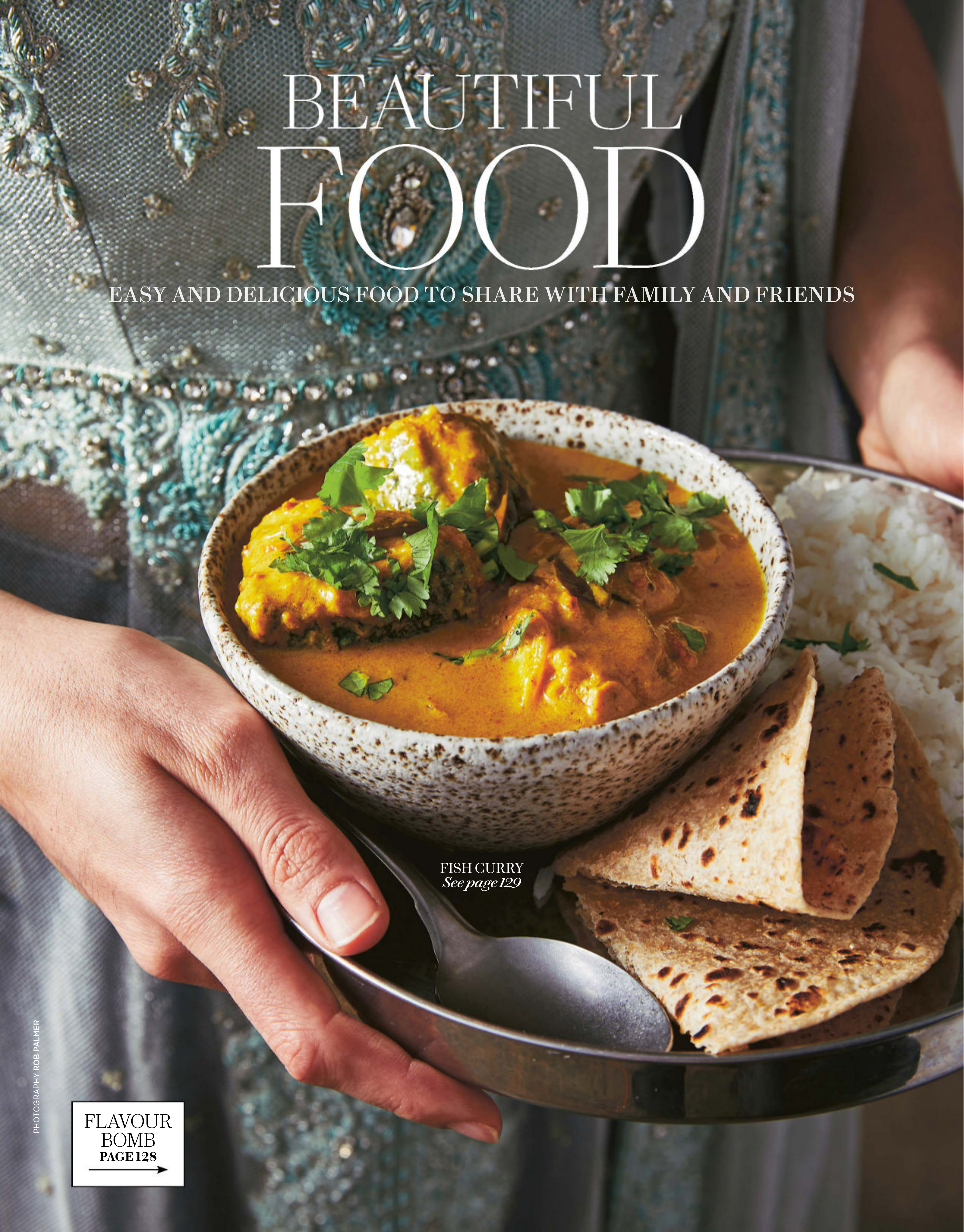


BEAUTIFUL FOOD

EASY AND DELICIOUS FOOD TO SHARE WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

FISH CURRY
See page 129

PHOTOGRAPHY ROB PALMER

FLAVOUR BOMB
PAGE 128
→

INDIAN SMOKED
EGGPLANT
(BAIGAN CHOKA)
See opposite

Flavour bomb

MasterChef winner Justin Narayan shares Indian-Fijian family recipes and inventive creations in his new book

RECIPES JUSTIN NARAYAN | STYLING LUCY TWEED | PHOTOGRAPHY ROB PALMER

Fish curry

Serves 4–6

100ml white vinegar
6 (600–700g) Spanish mackerel cutlets
2 tbsp plain flour
⅓ cup (80ml) light olive oil
1 small brown onion, thinly sliced
1 sprig fresh curry leaves
¼ tsp each of cumin seeds and black mustard seeds, and ⅛ tsp fenugreek seeds
10 garlic cloves, crushed, or 1½ tbsp garlic paste
10g fresh ginger, finely grated, or 1 tsp ginger paste
1 tomato, diced
1 tsp ground turmeric
½ tsp chilli powder
2 tbsp Fiji masala powder
25g fresh tamarind soaked in 100ml warm water (see tip) or 1 tbsp store-bought tamarind paste
300ml hot water
100ml coconut cream
1 small bunch of fresh coriander, leaves and stems roughly chopped, to serve
Roti and rice, to serve

1 Combine vinegar and 2 cups (500ml) of water in a bowl. Wash the fish in the vinegar mixture, drain and pat dry with paper towel. Sprinkle with flour and a pinch of salt.
2 Heat ¼ cup (60ml) oil in a frying pan over medium heat, then add the fish and fry until golden brown, about 2 minutes each side. (No need to cook the fish through, just aiming to get colour.) Set aside on a plate.
3 Wipe the pan clean with paper towel, then add the remaining oil along with the onion, curry leaves and whole spices. Cook over medium–high heat. When the onion starts to turn golden brown, add the garlic, ginger and tomato and cook until the tomato breaks down, 3–5 minutes. Add the powdered spices and a pinch of salt and cook out for 1–2 minutes.
4 Now, mix in the tamarind paste, then cook for another 2 minutes. Add the hot water and bring to a gentle simmer. Cook for 5 minutes, then add the seared fish and let it cook for 5 minutes. Pour in the coconut cream and simmer for 2 minutes.
5 Season with salt to taste and garnish with the coriander. Serve with roti and rice.
TIP Soak tamarind pods in warm water until just covered for 30 minutes, then use your hands to separate the flesh from the seeds and fibrous bits. The flesh and water will form a paste.

Indian smoked eggplant (Baigan Choka)

Serves 4

1 large eggplant
2 garlic cloves, halved
½ red onion, finely chopped
1 bird's eye chilli, finely chopped
Small handful of fresh coriander leaves, finely chopped
2 tsp lemon juice (from about ¼ lemon)
Roti or rice, to serve

1 Use a knife to make 4 slits in the eggplant, then stuff with the garlic halves.
Option 1: stove or barbecue Place the eggplant on a wire rack over a gas stove or on a barbecue grill plate on high or over coals. Allow it to char on one section, then turn and char the next section. Repeat until it's charred all over – this will take about 10–15 minutes. Transfer to a bowl, cover it with plastic wrap and let it steam until completely soft and cooked through, about 10 minutes.
Option 2: oven Preheat the oven to 220°C. Dry roast the eggplant for 15–20 minutes, then remove from the oven and transfer to a bowl. Cover with plastic wrap and let it steam until completely soft and cooked through, 5–10 minutes.
2 Unwrap the eggplant, peel and discard the skin. Place it in a clean bowl and mash with a fork, ensuring you mash the garlic as well. Add the onion, chilli, coriander and lemon juice.
3 Season with salt and mix. Taste and adjust with salt according to taste. Serve at room temperature with roti or rice. >

Green salad

Serves 4-6

400g roasted or barbecued veg (see tip)
400g raw veg (see tip)
20–30g roasted nuts (I like almonds, macadamias and peanuts), roughly chopped

Dressing

½ avocado
2 tbsp lemon juice (from about 1 lemon)
¼ bunch of fresh coriander, leaves and stems roughly chopped
¼ bunch of fresh flat-leaf parsley, leaves and stems roughly chopped
1 green chilli
1 garlic clove, roughly chopped
⅓ cup (80ml) extra virgin olive oil

1 To make the dressing, blend all the dressing ingredients in a blender until smooth. (You want to get a thick creamy consistency. Add a little water if you need to thin the dressing.) Season with salt and pepper and set aside in the fridge.

2 Chop the roasted or barbecued veg into random bite-sized pieces. Cut the raw veg into whatever shape you like. (I do a rough chop if it's something like a cucumber. If it's like a long snow pea shape, I'll finely slice or julienne.) Combine all the veg in a big bowl and dress it with the creamy, green dressing. Top with the nuts and eat.

TIP You can use any green vegetables in this (really any vegetable, it just won't look as good). For the roast veg, I like zucchini and broccolini because you can get a good char on them. For raw, I like snow peas and cucumber for texture. If you want to add leafy greens you can, but I don't.

Breakfast tacos … or burritos

Serves 2 (makes 6 tacos or 2 burritos)

150–200g potato gems or hash browns
2 spicy sausages (chorizo preferably), roughly chopped
4 eggs
6 small tortillas (for tacos) or 2 large tortillas (for burritos)
150g whatever cheese you have, shredded

Salsa (see tip)

4–6 (300–400g) whole canned tomatillos
1 jalapeño chilli
½ avocado
2 tsp lime juice (from about ½ lime), plus extra to taste
1 small bunch of fresh coriander, leaves and stems roughly chopped

1 If you're making the salsa, blend all the salsa ingredients and 1 tablespoon of water in a blender until smooth. Season with salt and extra lime juice, if needed. Cook the gems or hash browns according to packet instructions.

2 Cook the sausage in a frying pan until golden brown, reserving any fat in the pan. Crack the eggs into a bowl and mix with a fork or whisk. Heat the pan back up over medium heat, then pour in the egg. Cook, while mixing constantly, to form a soft scramble. Just before the egg has fully set, take off the heat and hit the eggs with a little pinch of salt and pepper.

Option 1: tacos Heat a frying pan over medium heat, then toast each small tortilla until golden, lightly charred and puffed, roughly 30 seconds each side. Sprinkle with some cheese and top with the scrambled egg, gems or hash browns and sausage.

Option 2: burritos Divide the scrambled egg among large tortillas, top with some cheese, sausage, gems or hash browns and hot sauce or salsa. Wrap up each burrito, then place in the pan, seam side down, and toast until golden brown, about 1–2 minutes each side.

3 Hit everything with some more hot sauce or salsa, then enjoy a great breakfast creation.

TIP You can also use leftover salsa (any kind) or your favourite hot sauce (my recommendation is El Yucateco Salsa Picante Verde de Chile Habanero). >

GREEN SALAD
See opposite

BREAKFAST TACOS
See page 130

LYCHEE AND MANGO TRIFLES
See page 135

MASALA POTATOES
See opposite

Lychee & mango trifles

Makes 4 mini trifles

1 homemade sponge cake or store-bought (if you're running short on time), at room temperature

Lychee cream

560g can pitted lychees in syrup

300ml thickened (whipping) cream

1 heaped tbsp (15g) icing sugar

1 tsp vanilla bean paste or vanilla essence

Mango filling

1 mango (see tip)

2 tsp lime juice (from about ½ lime), plus extra to taste

Icing sugar, to taste

1 To make the lychee cream, drain the lychees into a sieve set over a bowl, reserving the syrup. Press down on the lychees in the sieve to get as much of the syrup out as you can. Blend the lychees in a blender until smooth. In another bowl, using electric beaters or a hand whisk, whip the cream, sugar and vanilla until stiff peaks form. Add the lychee puree and fold through. (The cream should still hold, but give it a little extra whip if it's too loose.)
2 To make the mango filling, peel the mango and cut the flesh from the seed. Dice the flesh, reserving any juice that comes out. Place the diced mango and reserved juice in a bowl with the lime juice and a pinch of salt. Mix and adjust with extra lime juice and more salt, if you need. (It should be sour at first, then you should have a little bit of saltiness in the background, then a burst of refreshing, sweet mango flavour.) If it needs more sweetness, add a bit of icing sugar.
3 Cut the sponge cake in half horizontally. (You want it nice and thin.) Pick out four serving glasses (any nice glass or jar you want to serve in) and use the rim of a glass to cut the cake into perfect circles. (You want to end up with eight circle pieces in total. You'll need to cut and combine a few semi-circles.)
4 Place a layer of sponge at the bottom of each glass. Top each with a generous tablespoon of the reserved lychee syrup, then a generous tablespoon of the mango filling, then about 2 tablespoons of the lychee cream. Repeat layering for a second time, finishing with a little mango filling on top. Place the trifles in the fridge for 2 hours (overnight is fine too). Remove from the fridge 20 minutes before serving.
TIPS Kensington Pride is the best Australian mango, not just for this, but generally. Make these trifles when mangoes are in season and at their best. You can make a fresh lychee filling instead of mango, but it will take a while to peel and deseed 10 of them and be a bit more expensive too. Drizzle some of the reserved lychee syrup over the sponge pieces to soak in before assembling

Masala potatoes

Serves 4-6

1kg potatoes (Dutch cream are good), peeled if you want (see tip)

3 garlic cloves, thinly sliced

1 bird's eye chilli, halved lengthways

1 tsp black mustard seeds

1 tsp ground cumin

½ tsp ground turmeric

140g unsalted butter (the best you can find), cubed (see tip)

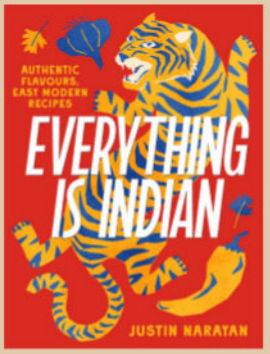
1 tbsp light olive oil

1 tbsp lemon juice (from about ½ lemon), to serve

¼ bunch of fresh coriander, leaves and stems finely chopped, to serve

Flaky sea salt, to season

1 Chop the potatoes into quarters, then add to a saucepan of cold, salted water and bring to the boil. Cook until they can easily be pierced by a fork, about 30 minutes. Drain well and allow them to dry, about 5 minutes.
2 Preheat the oven to 220°C.
3 While the potatoes are still hot, add to a bowl with the garlic, chilli, mustard seeds, cumin, turmeric, butter and a pinch of salt. As the butter melts, stir to evenly coat the potatoes. Transfer the spiced potatoes to a roasting tray, and roast, giving them a little mix or toss every 10–15 minutes, until golden brown and crispy, about 30–40 minutes.
4 To serve, transfer the potatoes to a serving dish, drizzle over the lemon juice, then sprinkle with the coriander and a pinch of flaky sea salt.
TIPS If you can't be bothered to cut and peel the potatoes, just chuck in chat (new) potatoes. I tried roasting potatoes with all different kinds of fat. Duck fat is good, but my favourite is butter. I friggin' love butter. You're pushing the butter right to the edge with this heat, but it doesn't burn. It just gives great caramelisation and helps get the potatoes crispy.



HOT STUFF

This is an edited extract from 'Everything is Indian' by Justin Narayan with photography by Rob Palmer, published by Murdoch Books, $39.99. HB

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WHAT'S NEW THIS MONTH? WE'VE GONE SHOPPING FOR YOU
TO DISCOVER THE LATEST PRODUCTS TO HIT THE SHELVES

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Dream HOMES

Hear the stories behind three gorgeous homes that dreams are made of, as we share the visions, journeys and lessons the owners learnt along the way. Each of the stunning designs represents the owners' unique visions, from a glowing Mediterranean retreat, to a sophisticated neutral zone custom fit for empty nesters and a home given an eclectic makeover.

NEW BUILD

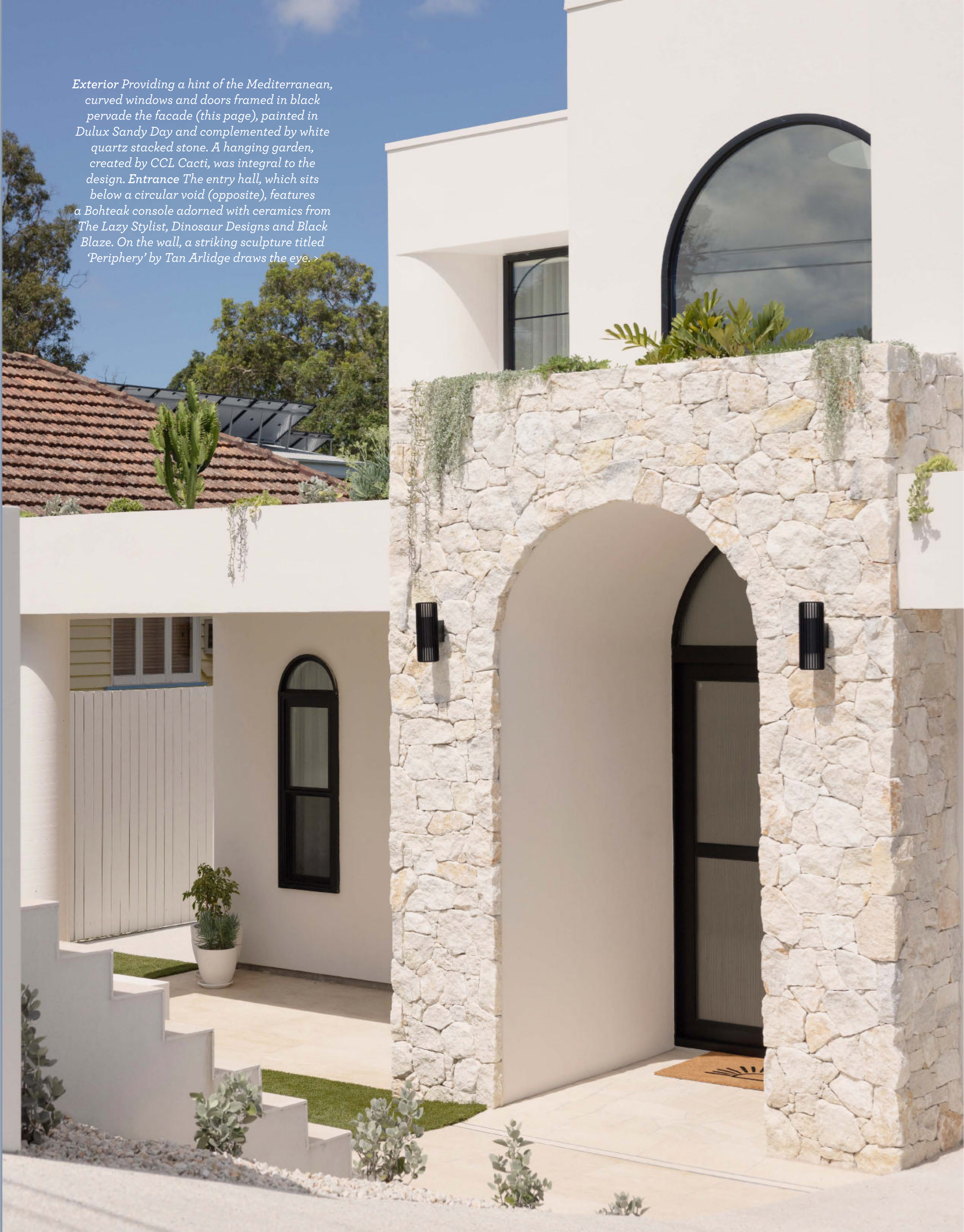
LET IT GLOW

DESIGNED BY THE OWNERS AS THEIR ULTIMATE RETREAT, FLOWING MARBLE, CURVES AND CLAY TONES ABOUND IN THIS INSPIRING ONE-OF-A-KIND BRISBANE HOME

Story **KYLIE JACKES** Photography **LOUISE ROCHE**

Having designed half a dozen homes for her family, each time building, selling and moving on, Ashley has learnt a lot. For their sixth house she combined all the elements she and husband Chad love; to create a place they were content to settle down, with their young daughters Asta and Maya. The couple secured a block with city views not far from Brisbane's CBD and knocked down the existing house. "The biggest challenge was the sloping site, which we overcame with significant engineering to elevate the pool and alfresco area four metres above natural ground, so it flowed seamlessly from the kitchen and living area, which is where we spend all our time," explains Ashley, who worked with ReziCad to document her vision. Soaring windows, doors and skylights infuse a natural glow, while beautiful joinery ensures the essentials of family life are catered for, but cleverly concealed where possible. "It ticks a lot of boxes," muses Ashley. "We definitely want to stay here a while."

ALL PAINT COLOURS MAY VARY ON APPLICATION



Exterior *Providing a hint of the Mediterranean, curved windows and doors framed in black pervade the facade (this page), painted in Dulux Sandy Day and complemented by white quartz stacked stone. A hanging garden, created by CCL Cacti, was integral to the design.* **Entrance** *The entry hall, which sits below a circular void (opposite), features a Bohteak console adorned with ceramics from The Lazy Stylist, Dinosaur Designs and Black Blaze. On the wall, a striking sculpture titled 'Periphery' by Tan Arlidge draws the eye.* >

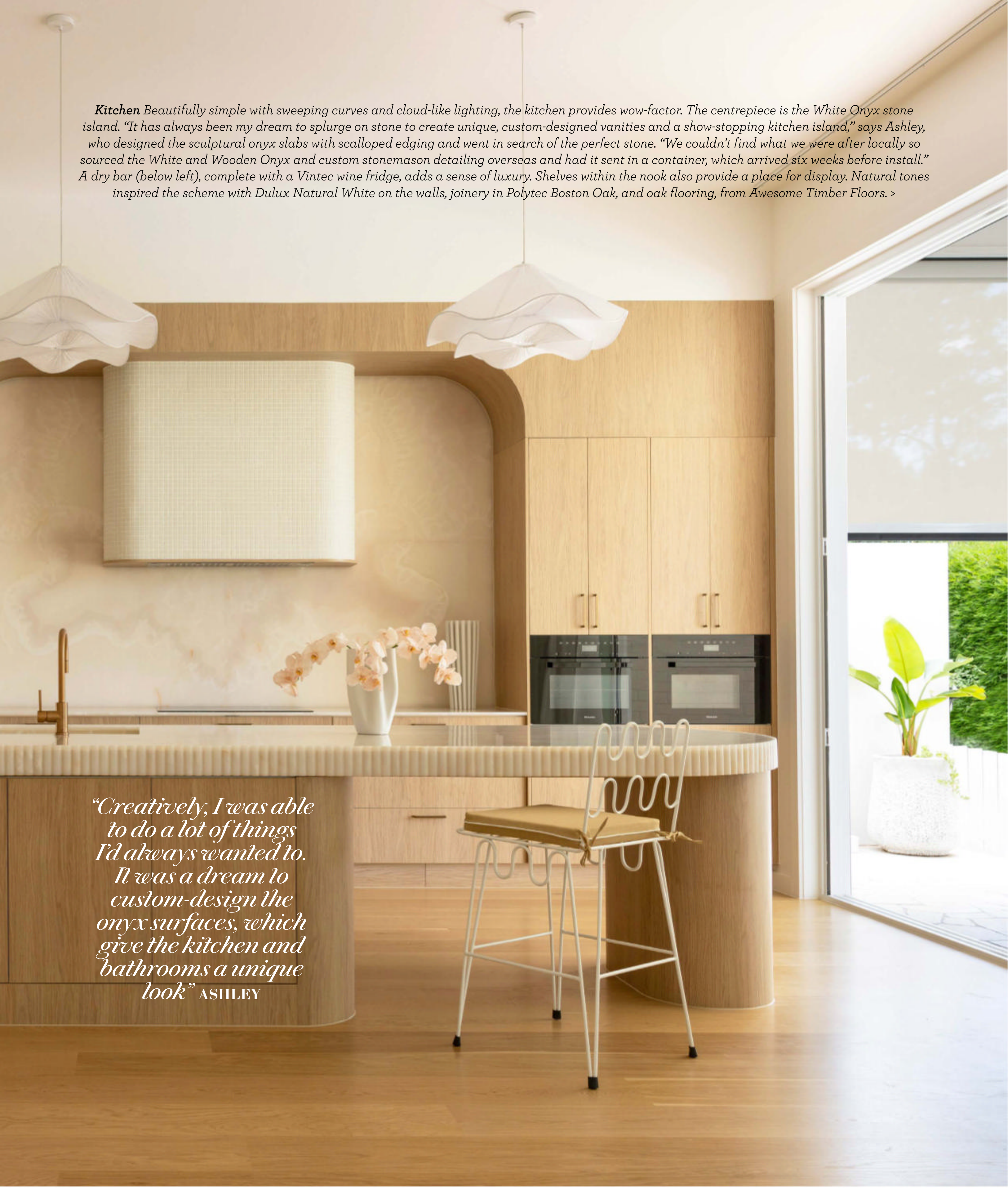
Realising the dream

"The quality of natural light in a home makes a huge difference to how it feels, so it was really important to capture as much of it as possible and enhance the sense of connectivity to the outdoors," explains Ashley. This was achieved with custom three-metre-high glass doors, soaring arched windows, a vast double front door and Velux skylights that infuse the home with a natural warm glow.

It was also important to create an outdoor haven. Living in Queensland's tropical climate, Ashley has found their favourite place to spend time is outside, in the pool and alfresco area. "We live outside, particularly in summer, so the design centred on ensuring the kitchen and living zones overlooked the pool and flowed seamlessly to the alfresco area," she says. "It feels like you're on holiday when you eat outside around the pool and can jump in to cool off whenever you want."

Lessons learnt

Experienced in new builds, Ashley and Chad have accumulated a wealth of knowledge with each step of the building and design process. "One of the biggest things we've learnt is patience in the process and the importance of devoting time to the planning," says Ashley. "Creating a home that functions well takes time, and working out as many of the details ahead of the build can save headaches down the track. It's really beneficial in the planning stage to get renders of key spaces like the kitchen, ensuite and outdoor area to ensure it works functionally and aesthetically."

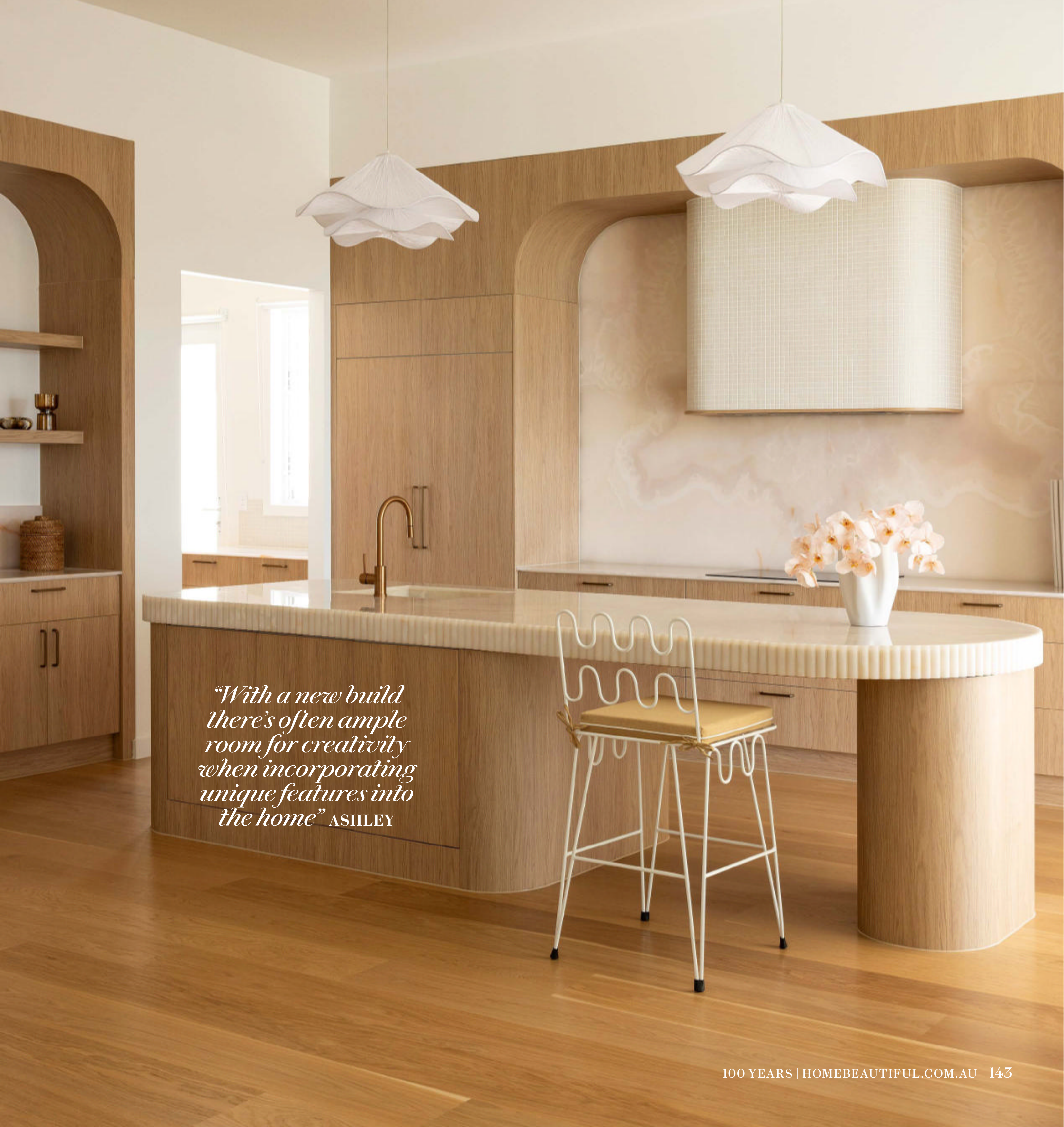


Kitchen *Beautifully simple with sweeping curves and cloud-like lighting, the kitchen provides wow-factor. The centrepiece is the White Onyx stone island. "It has always been my dream to splurge on stone to create unique, custom-designed vanities and a show-stopping kitchen island," says Ashley, who designed the sculptural onyx slabs with scalloped edging and went in search of the perfect stone. "We couldn't find what we were after locally so sourced the White and Wooden Onyx and custom stonemason detailing overseas and had it sent in a container, which arrived six weeks before install." A dry bar (below left), complete with a Vintec wine fridge, adds a sense of luxury. Shelves within the nook also provide a place for display. Natural tones inspired the scheme with Dulux Natural White on the walls, joinery in Polytec Boston Oak, and oak flooring, from Awesome Timber Floors.* >

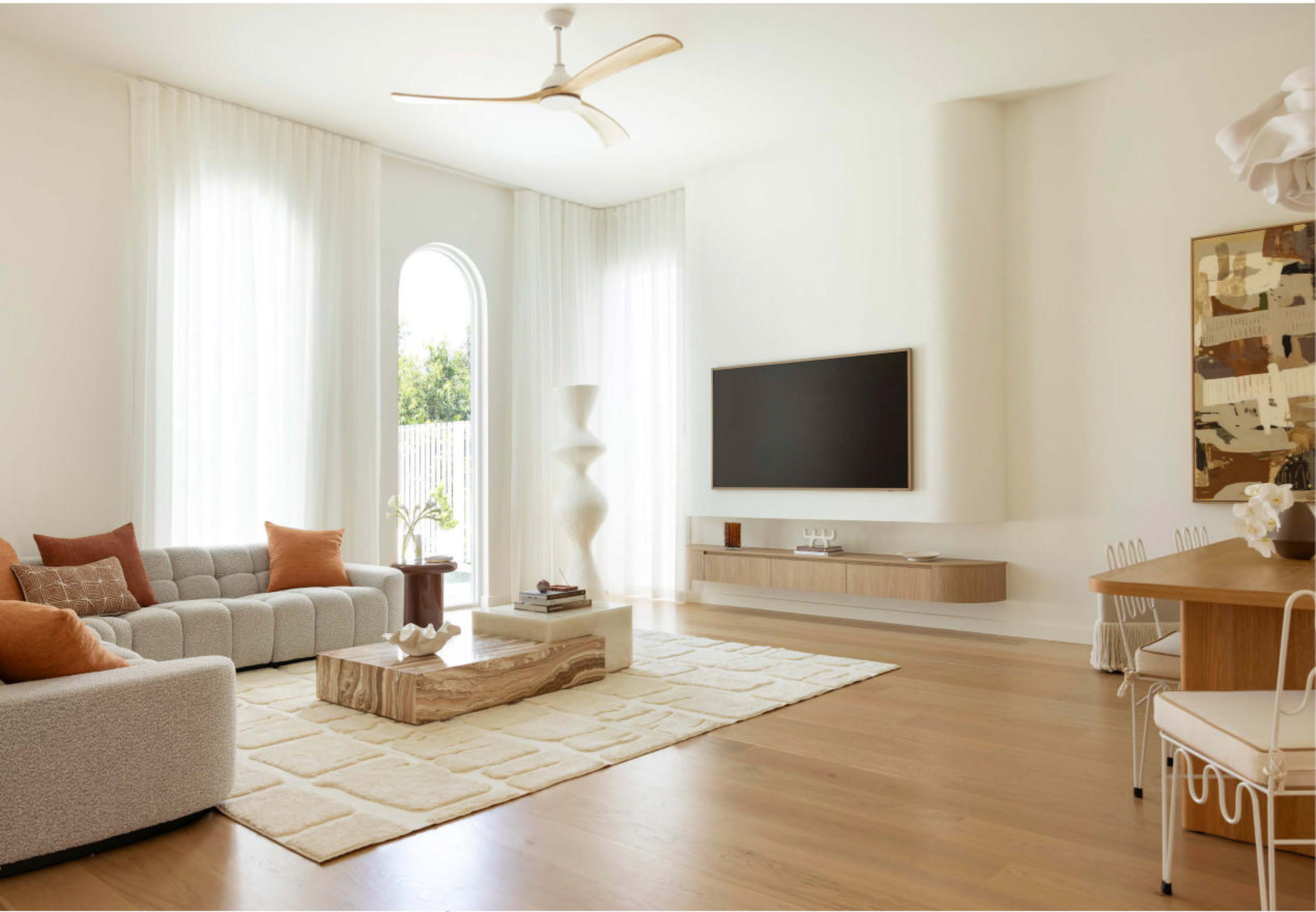
> *"Creatively, I was able to do a lot of things I'd always wanted to. It was a dream to custom-design the onyx surfaces, which give the kitchen and bathrooms a unique look"* ASHLEY

ARTWORK (BOTTOM LEFT) 'TAMARA' BY GABRIELLE DIAMANTIS

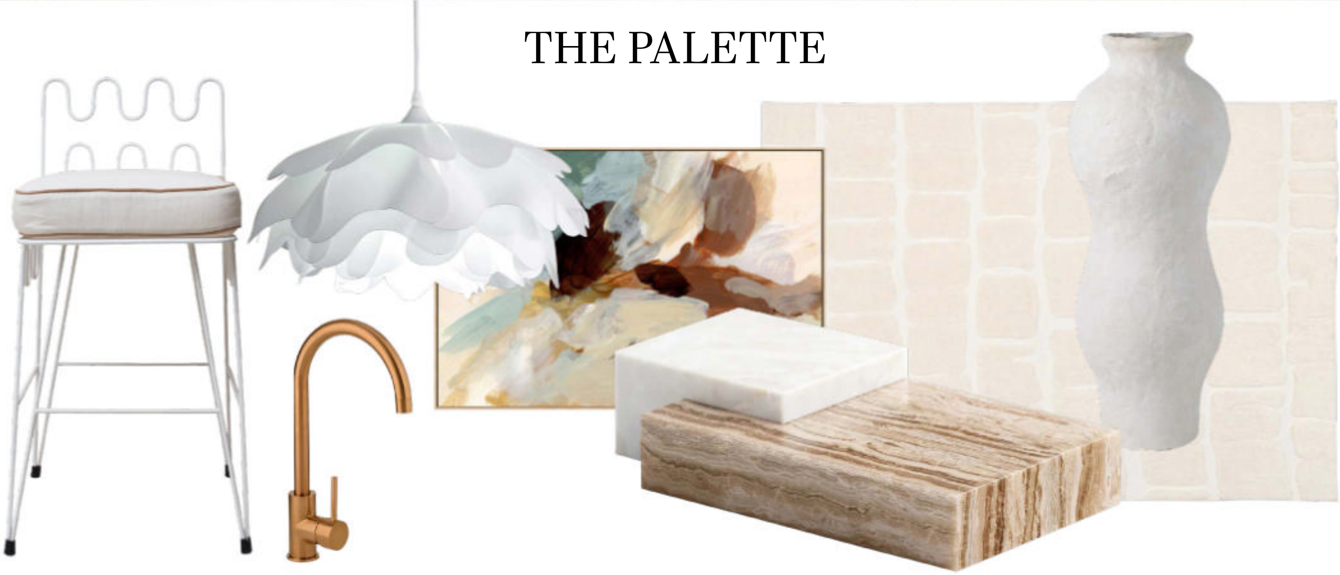
Kitchen *The same White Onyx that is on the island in the kitchen (this page & opposite, top left & bottom left) runs up the back wall. Gentle curves abound, from the shape of the joinery to the carefully selected 'Caroline Double' pendants from About Space Lighting, to the stool from Bohteak. In keeping with the warm tones throughout the house, Brushed Copper tapware from ABI Interiors was chosen for all the wet areas.* ***Entry*** *A sense of arrival is created with stairs leading down to the main level, with the entry (opposite, top right) taking you past a wine cellar incorporated below the stairs. Wall sconce from the Lighting Collective.* ***Butler's pantry*** *The kitchen flows through to a butler's pantry (opposite, bottom left), equipped with plenty of storage and prep space.* ***Dining*** *When dining inside, the family take a seat in Bohteak chairs and gather around a table from Life Interiors (opposite, bottom right). Ashley designed the ruffle pendant and chose the 'Pare' artwork by Bec Talbot to complement the home's tones. >*



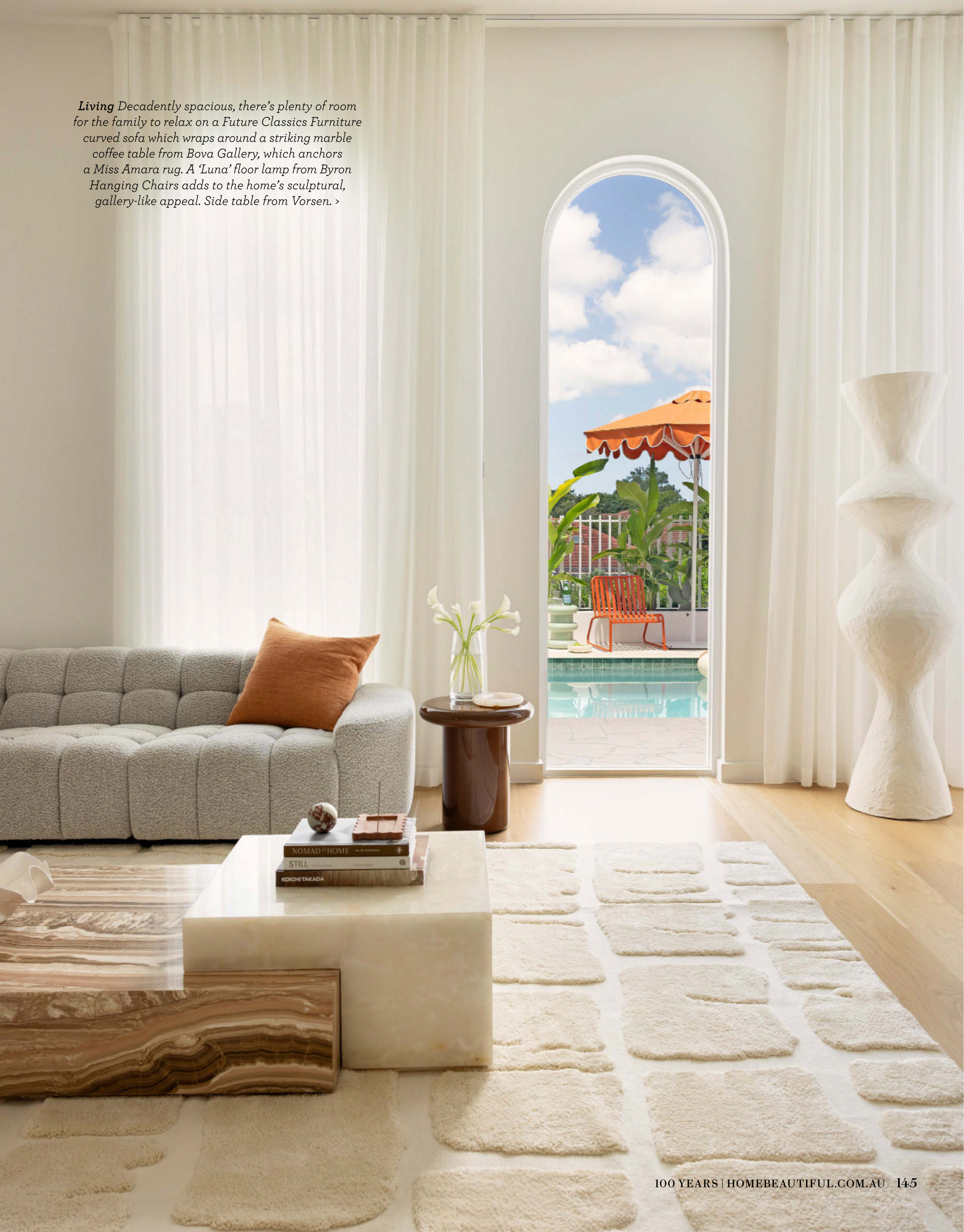
"With a new build there's often ample room for creativity when incorporating unique features into the home" ASHLEY



THE PALETTE

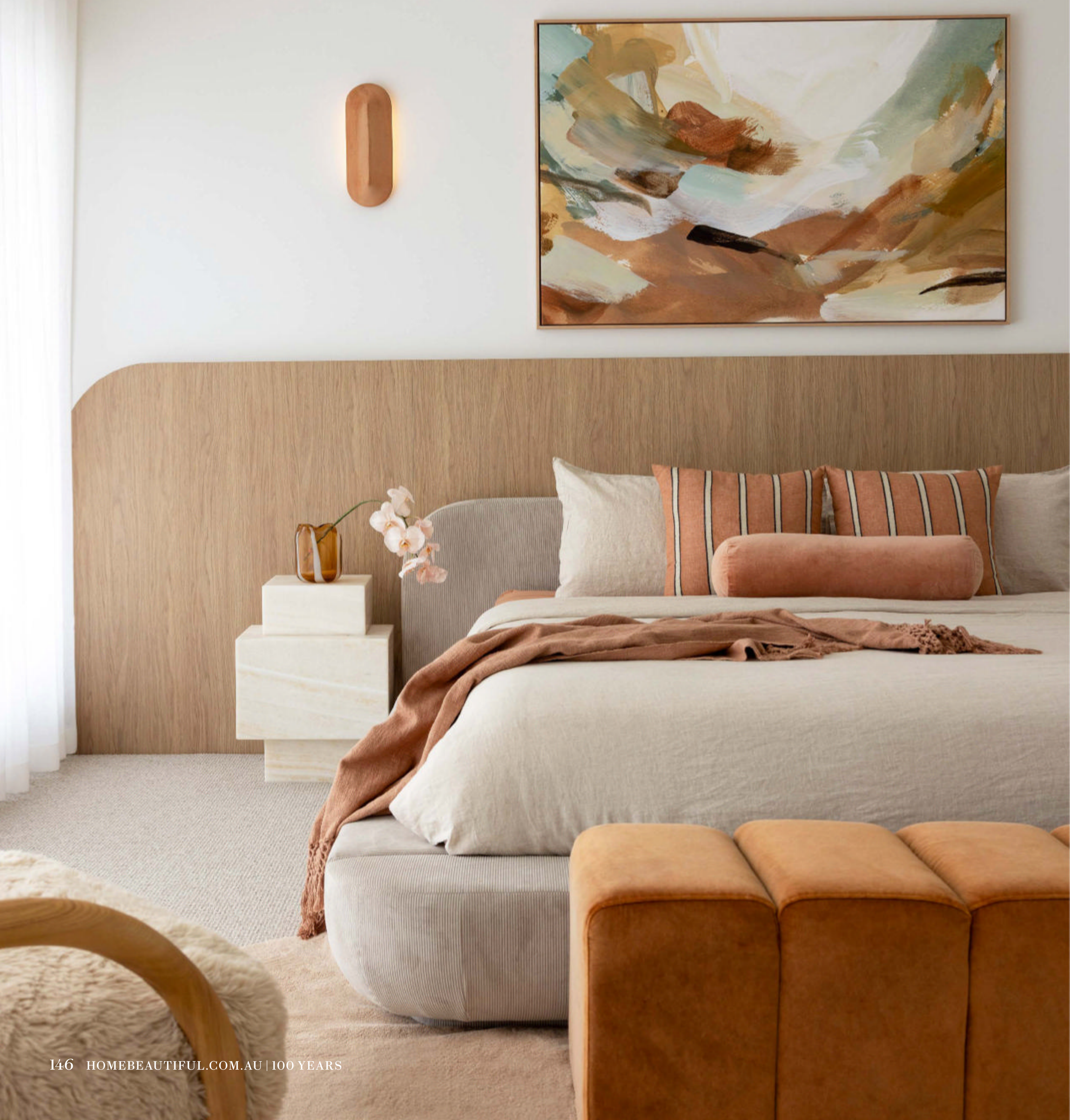


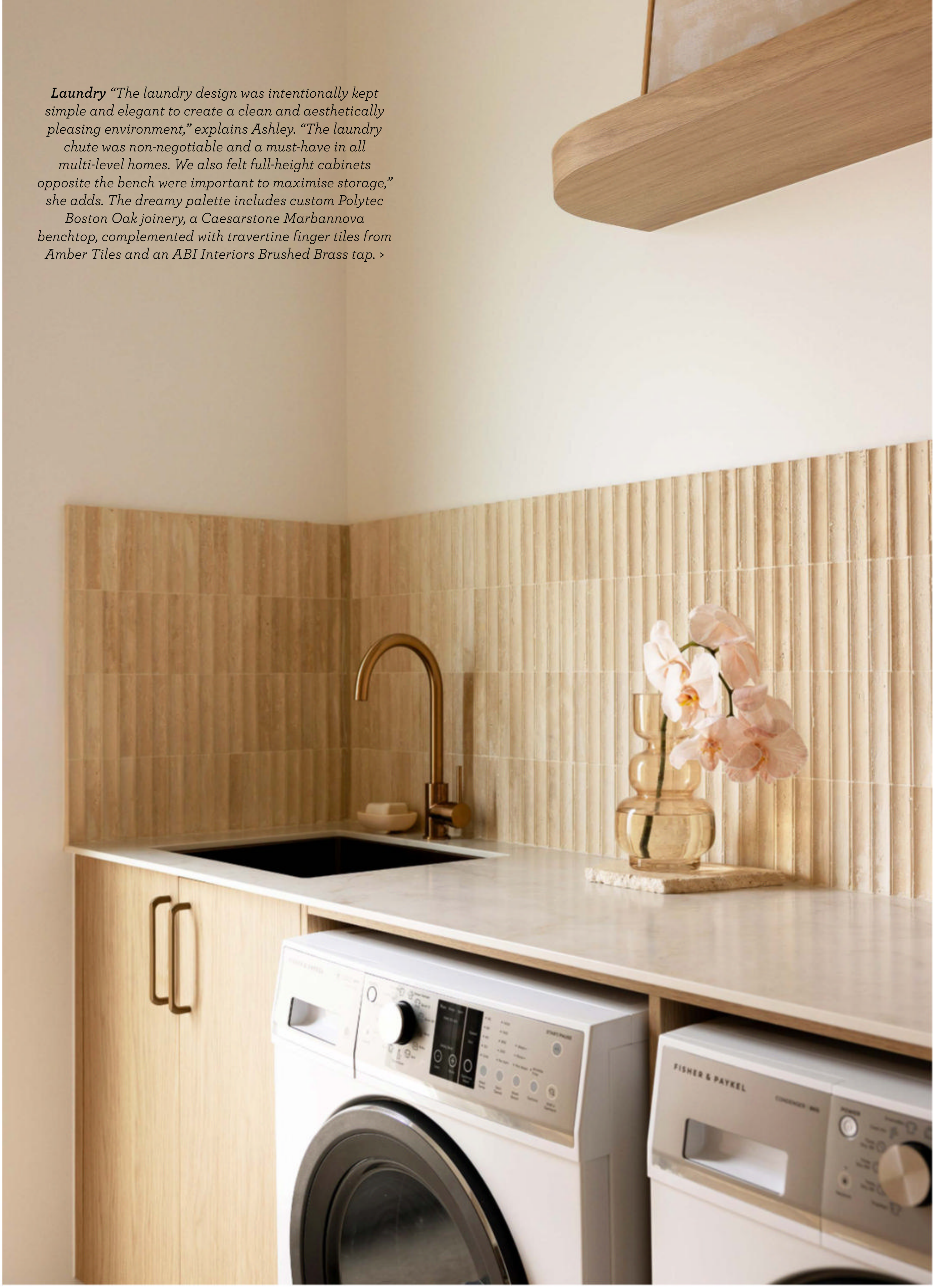
From left *'Wavy'* ***bar stool****, $549, Bohteak. Flower-shaped white* ***pendant lamp****, $700, Misterlamp. 'Elysian'* ***kitchen mixer*** *in Brushed Copper, $289.90, ABI Interiors. 'Down to Earth'* ***artwork*** *by Emily Wood, $439.99/80cm x 120cm (framed), Gioia Wall Art. 'Moco'* ***coffee table*** *in Tiramisu & White Onyx, $4955/130cm, Bova Gallery. 'Kunal' abstract* ***rug*** *in Ivory, $449/230cm x 160cm, Miss Amara. 'Batley'* ***vase****, $319, Oz Design.*



Living *Decadently spacious, there's plenty of room for the family to relax on a Future Classics Furniture curved sofa which wraps around a striking marble coffee table from Bova Gallery, which anchors a Miss Amara rug. A 'Luna' floor lamp from Byron Hanging Chairs adds to the home's sculptural, gallery-like appeal. Side table from Vorsen. >*

***Main bedroom** A panel in Polytec Boston Oak in the main bedroom frames the bedhead from RJ Living (this page & opposite, bottom left). Another custom addition are the onyx bedside tables. The palette evokes a warm glow, from the bedlinen and cushions from Pillow Talk and Weave Home and RJ Living ottoman, to the walls where a Coco Flip 'Pinch' wall sconce and an artwork, 'Down to Earth' by Emily Wood from Gioia Wall Art, pair perfectly. **Main ensuite.** Floor-to-ceiling tiles from Amber Tiles envelop the ensuite (opposite, top left & bottom right), with the eyes drawn to the feature custom Polytec Boston Oak vanity topped in Wooden Onyx bordered with hand-scalloped edging. Rachel Donath mirrors accent the wall, punctuated with Brushed Brass tapware from ABI Interiors. A bath from Caroma sits alongside a tactile wall adorned in zellige tiles from Amber Tiles. **Guest ensuite** A vanity in Taj Mahal quartzite makes a statement below an RJ Living mirror that sits on wall tiles from Amber Tiles. >*

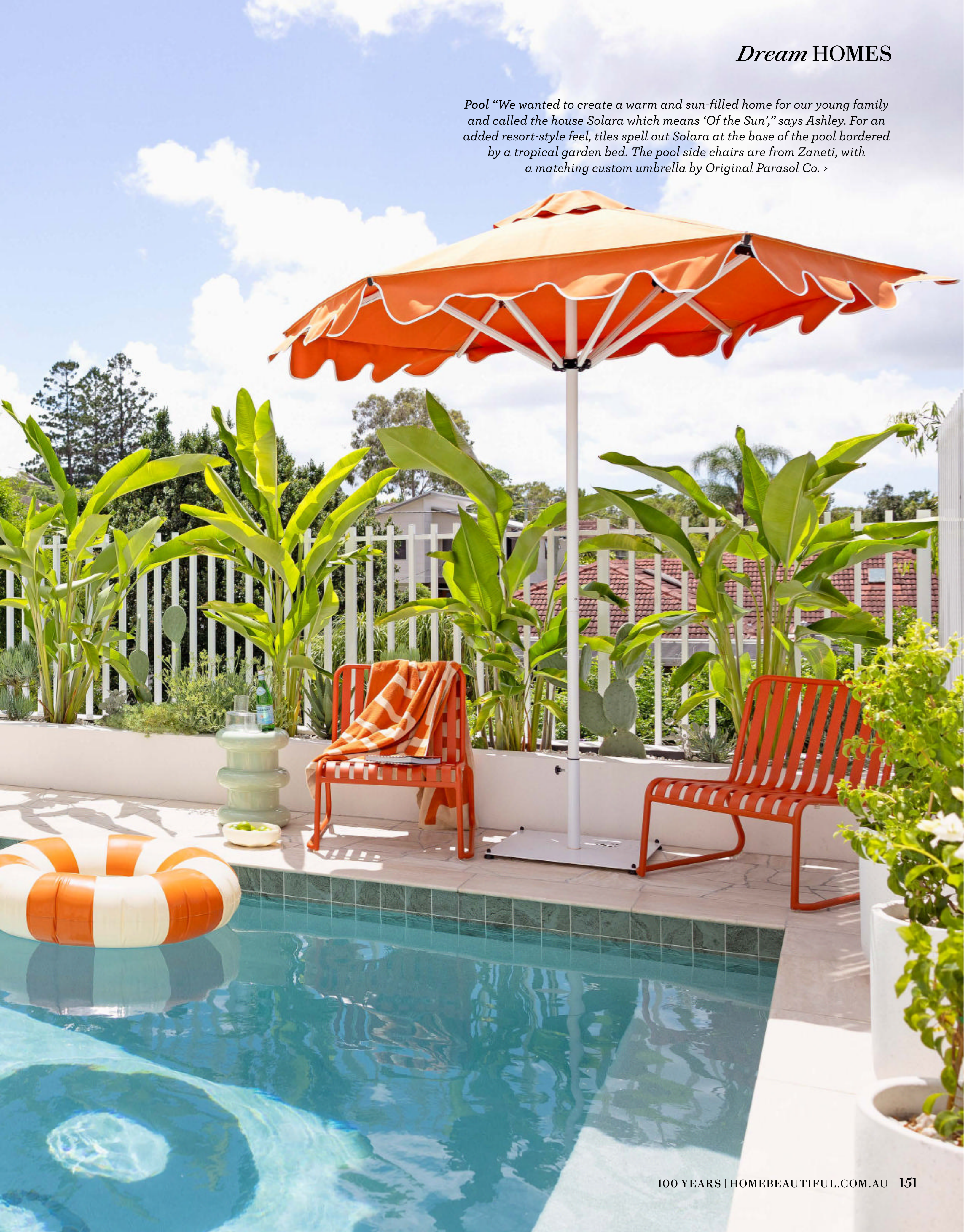




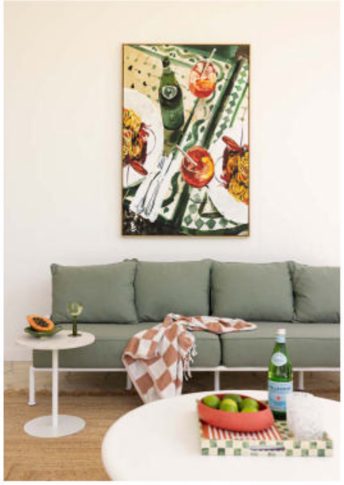
Laundry *"The laundry design was intentionally kept simple and elegant to create a clean and aesthetically pleasing environment," explains Ashley. "The laundry chute was non-negotiable and a must-have in all multi-level homes. We also felt full-height cabinets opposite the bench were important to maximise storage," she adds. The dreamy palette includes custom Polytec Boston Oak joinery, a Caesarstone Marbannova benchtop, complemented with travertine finger tiles from Amber Tiles and an ABI Interiors Brushed Brass tap. >*

"Be confident in your selections and don't let someone tell you it can't be done. Often with a little perseverance there will be a way" **ASHLEY**

ACTUAL PAINT COLOUR MAY VARY ON APPLICATION



Pool *"We wanted to create a warm and sun-filled home for our young family and called the house Solara which means 'Of the Sun'," says Ashley. For an added resort-style feel, tiles spell out Solara at the base of the pool bordered by a tropical garden bed. The pool side chairs are from Zaneti, with a matching custom umbrella by Original Parasol Co.* >



THE DREAM JOURNEY

Who? *Ashley, design and interior consultant; husband Chad who owns Submerge Plumbing & Gas and their children, Asta, 6, and Maya, 3.*
Where? *Mediterranean inspired, new build set across four levels in inner city Brisbane.*
Time frame? *Design took approximately six months, the build 12 months and the project was completed November 2024.*
The dream? *"To create a family home with personalised luxurious touches where every day felt like a holiday," says Ashley.*
Approach? *A knock down rebuild which made the most of the 620sqm block and city views.*
Must-haves? *A statement kitchen, a resort-style pool area, bold styling pieces with hints of colour and city views.*
Wishlist? *Central indoor-outdoor entertaining and living area, an abundance of natural stone, original art and unique light fittings.*
Why is this your dream home? *"It has a holiday feel, with everything we need and want," says Ashley.*

Best advice

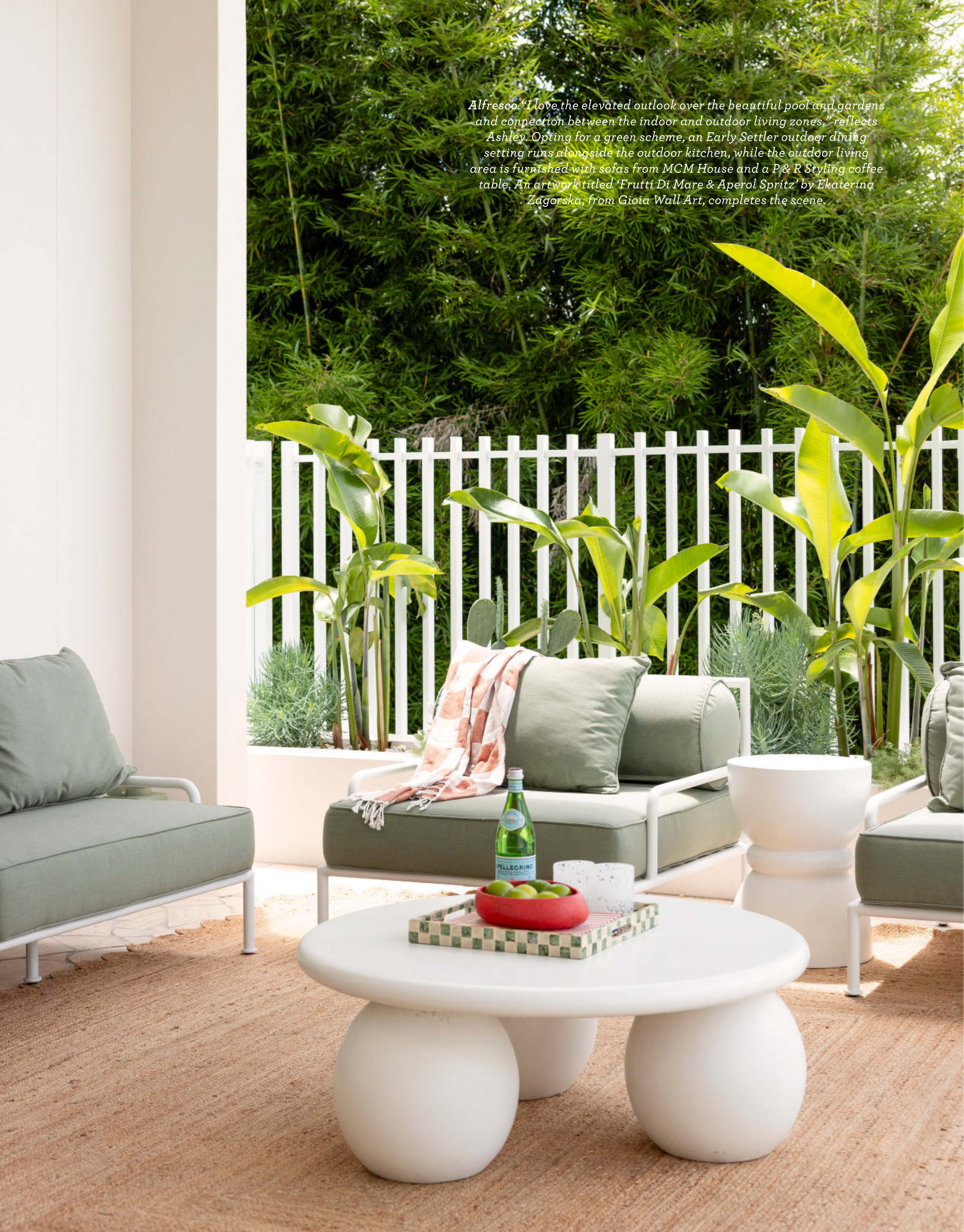
"Over the years, I have created a personalised budgeting spreadsheet in Excel that I consistently use which helps me stay organised and on track throughout the entire construction process," says Ashley.

The couple also know where they'll splurge and where they can save. "We've found considerable investment should be directed toward the kitchen and bathrooms. These spaces are central to the home's functionality and comfort. High-quality fixtures and fittings in these areas not only enhance the overall finish but can also contribute to the property's value," says Ashley. Landscaping is an area they can save. "During the build Chad was hands-on wherever possible, building garden beds, retaining walls, constructing fencing, laying turf and painting," says Ashley.

Engaging a qualified builder, experienced in the type of build you're embarking on is also essential. "You need to have confidence your builder has the expertise and a network of trades who can achieve the level of finish and architectural details you're after," says Ashley, "so look at their past work, ask the questions and ensure you have good communication from the start," says Ashley.

Source book

Design & interior consultant *Sage & Cove Interiors, 0422 832 171, @sage.and.cove*
Drafting *ReziCad, (07) 3363 8188, rezicad.com.* ***Builder*** *CHS Building, 0417 629 396, @chsbuilding*
Joinery *KVW Cabinets, 0422 744 788, kvwcabinets.com.au.* ***Hanging garden*** *CCL Cacti @ccl_cacti*



Alfresco *"I love the elevated outlook over the beautiful pool and gardens and connection between the indoor and outdoor living zones," reflects Ashley. Opting for a green scheme, an Early Settler outdoor dining setting runs alongside the outdoor kitchen, while the outdoor living area is furnished with sofas from MCM House and a P & R Styling coffee table. An artwork titled 'Frutti Di Mare & Aperol Spritz' by Ekaterina Zagorska, from Gioia Wall Art, completes the scene.*

RENOVATION

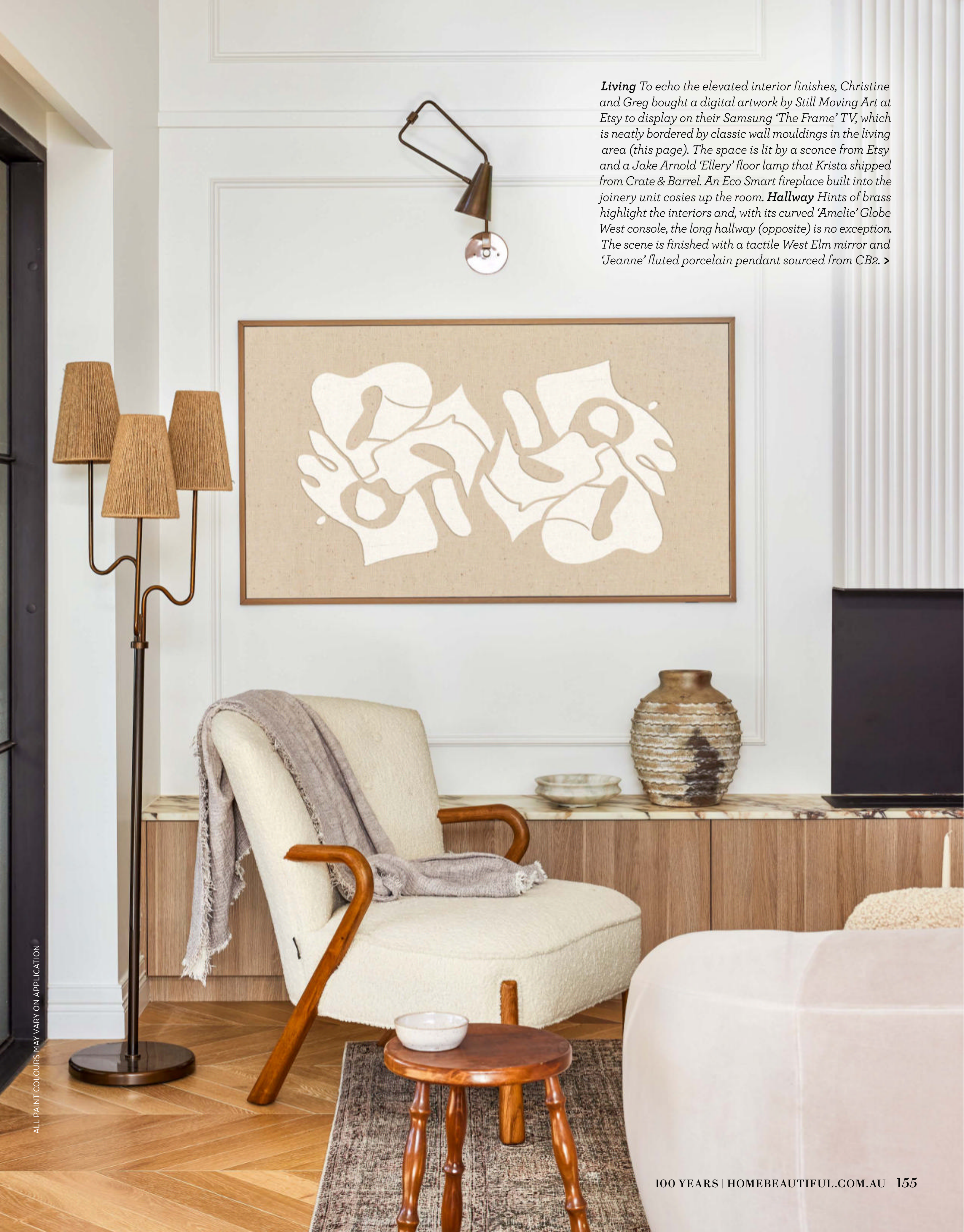
BIJOU BEAUTY

DOWNSIZING TO A PLACE THAT WAS PERFECT FROM THE START WAS THE AIM FOR THIS SYDNEY COUPLE. UNABLE TO FIND THE ONE, THEY DECIDED TO EMBARK ON A REVAMP

Story **JULIA FAIRLEY** Photography **PABLO VEIGA**

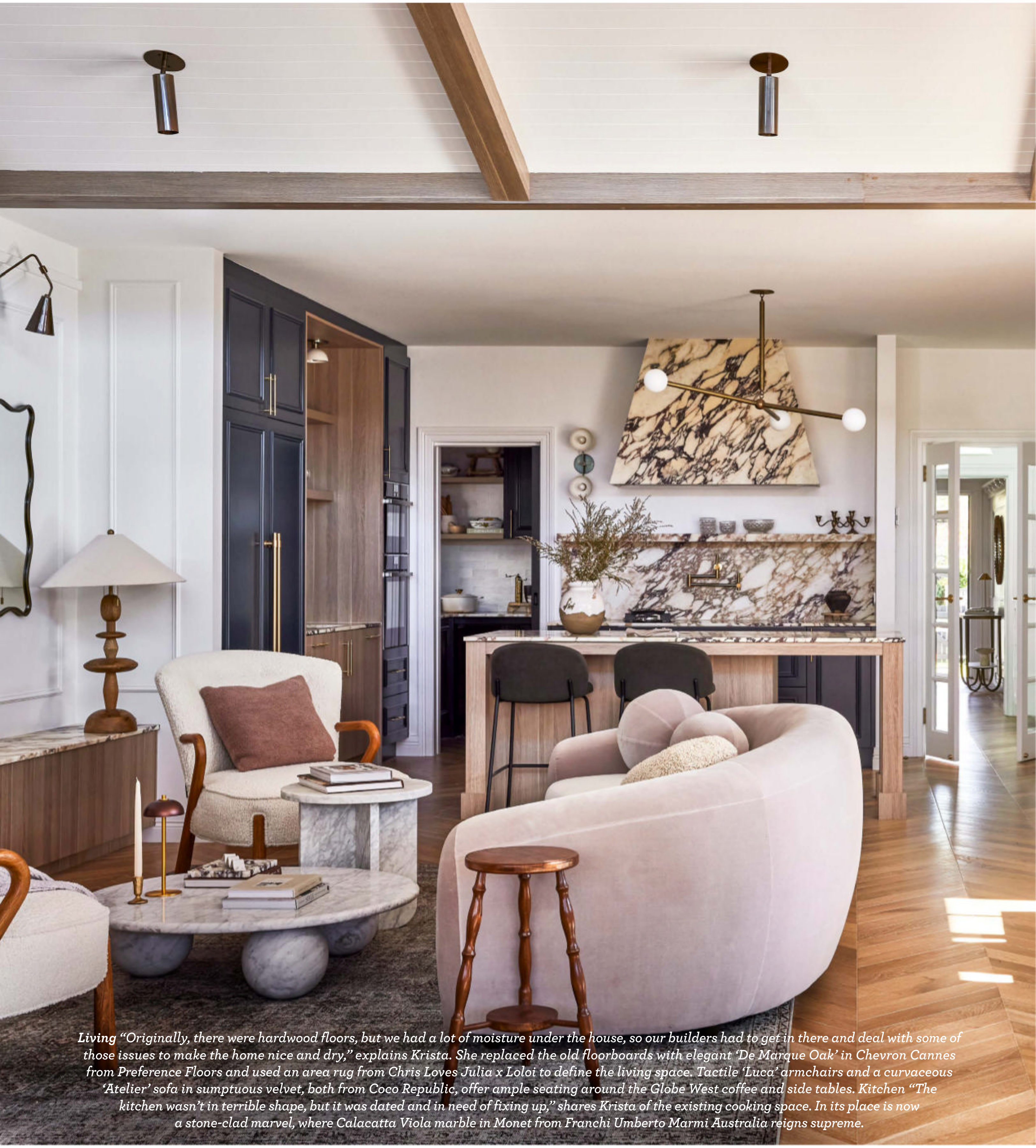
A renovation was one of the last things Christine and Greg hoped to undertake when the empty-nesters began looking for a new home. “They wanted to make sure they were downsizing to their forever home so they could age in place, but they didn’t initially want to renovate. I don’t think anyone does, unless you have the renovation bug,” admits interior designer Krista Collard, “but they weren’t finding what they needed.”

What they did find, however, was a charming but dated 1930s California bungalow on Sydney’s North Shore, which beckoned with potential. Close to the couple’s grandchildren and public transport, and large enough to host loved ones, the low-maintenance, single-storey abode ticked every box on their wishlist, except one: it was crying out for a revamp. Aesthetics aside, there was asbestos to remove, an old slab to replace and damp issues to fix, so after admiring Krista’s work, Christine and Greg engaged her to unveil the bungalow’s potential.

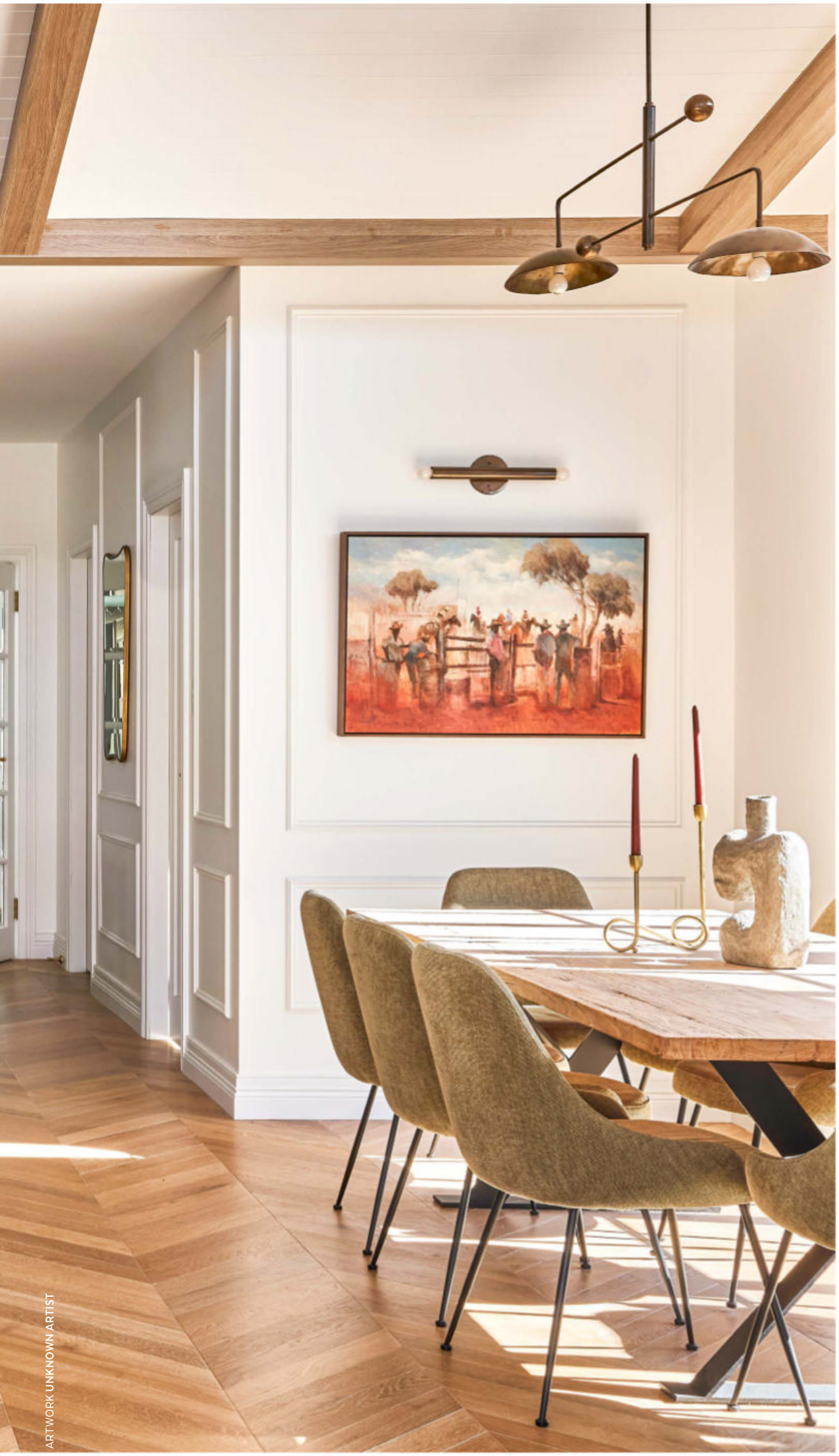


Living *To echo the elevated interior finishes, Christine and Greg bought a digital artwork by Still Moving Art at Etsy to display on their Samsung 'The Frame' TV, which is neatly bordered by classic wall mouldings in the living area (this page). The space is lit by a sconce from Etsy and a Jake Arnold 'Ellery' floor lamp that Krista shipped from Crate & Barrel. An Eco Smart fireplace built into the joinery unit cosies up the room.* **Hallway** *Hints of brass highlight the interiors and, with its curved 'Amelie' Globe West console, the long hallway (opposite) is no exception. The scene is finished with a tactile West Elm mirror and 'Jeanne' fluted porcelain pendant sourced from CB2.* >

ALL PAINT COLOURS MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

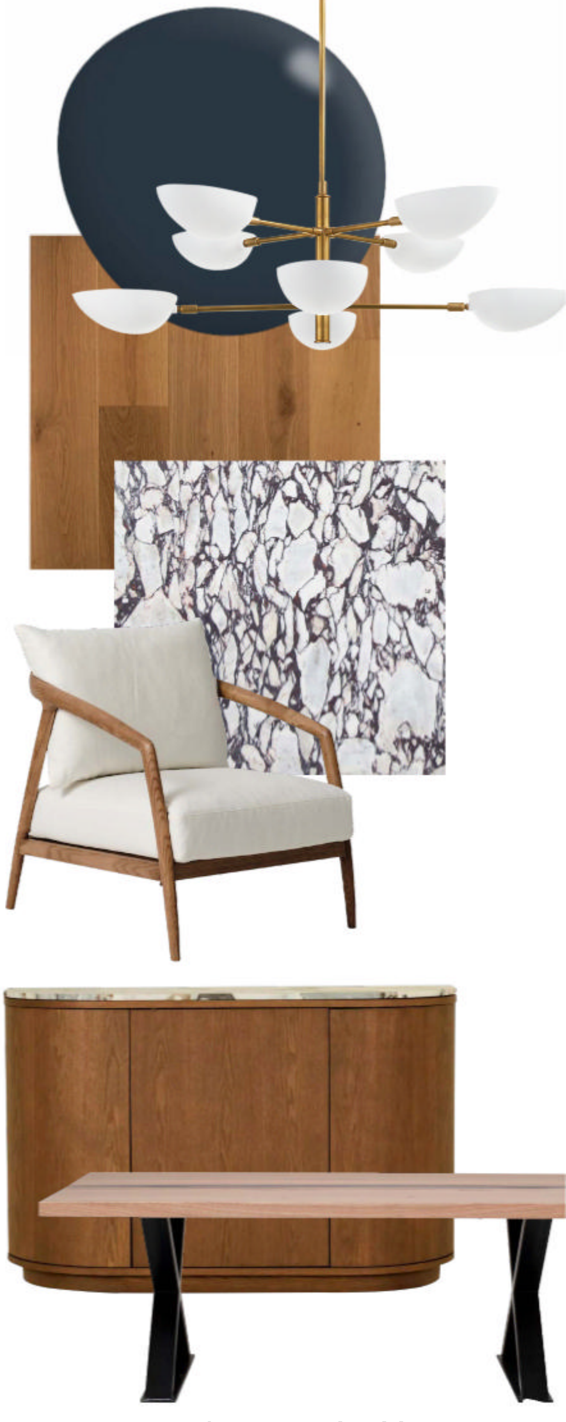


Living *"Originally, there were hardwood floors, but we had a lot of moisture under the house, so our builders had to get in there and deal with some of those issues to make the home nice and dry," explains Krista. She replaced the old floorboards with elegant 'De Marque Oak' in Chevron Cannes from Preference Floors and used an area rug from Chris Loves Julia x Loloi to define the living space. Tactile 'Luca' armchairs and a curvaceous 'Atelier' sofa in sumptuous velvet, both from Coco Republic, offer ample seating around the Globe West coffee and side tables.* ***Kitchen*** *"The kitchen wasn't in terrible shape, but it was dated and in need of fixing up," shares Krista of the existing cooking space. In its place is now a stone-clad marvel, where Calacatta Viola marble in Monet from Franchi Umberto Marmi Australia reigns supreme.*

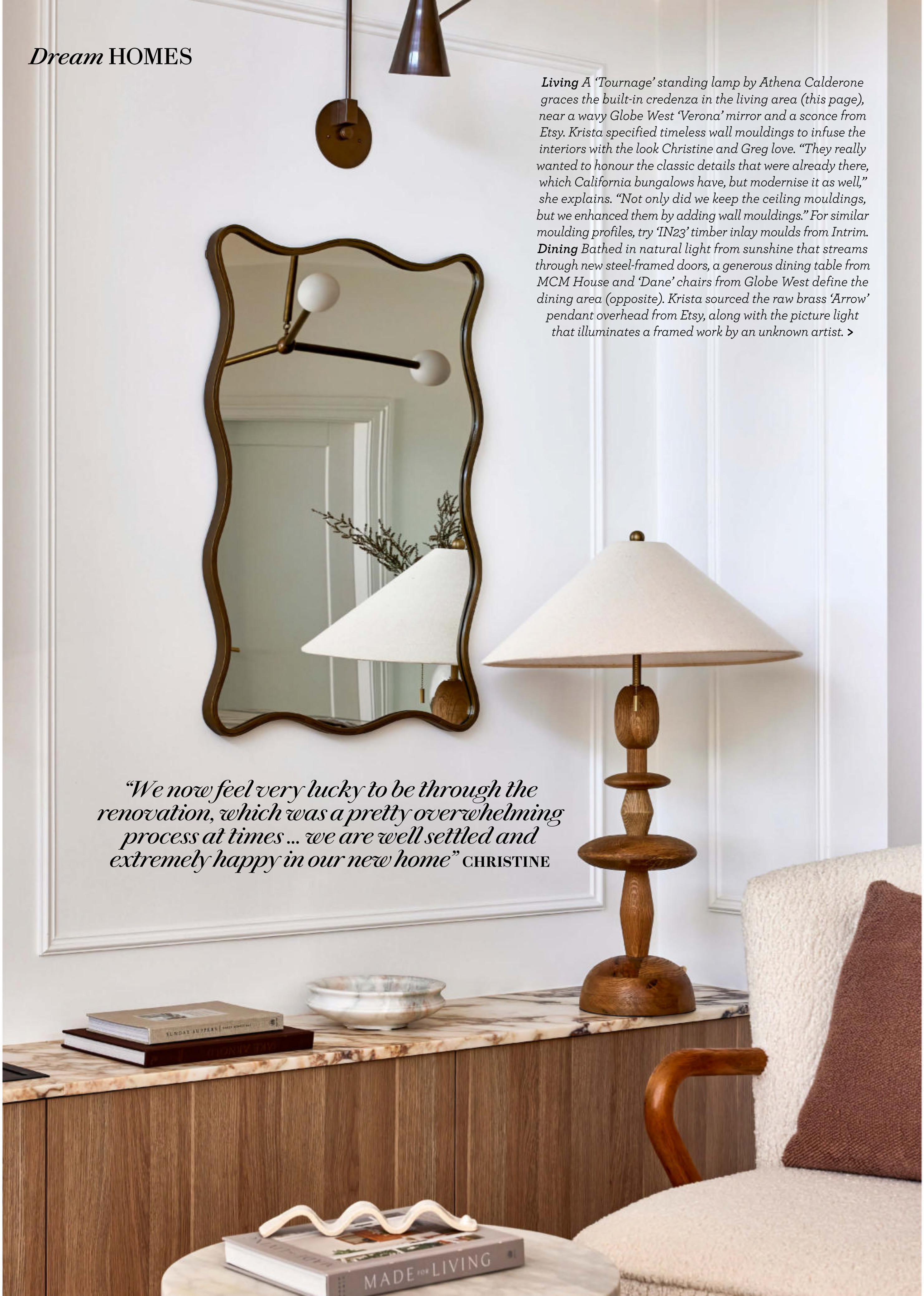


ARTWORK UNKNOWN ARTIST

THE PALETTE

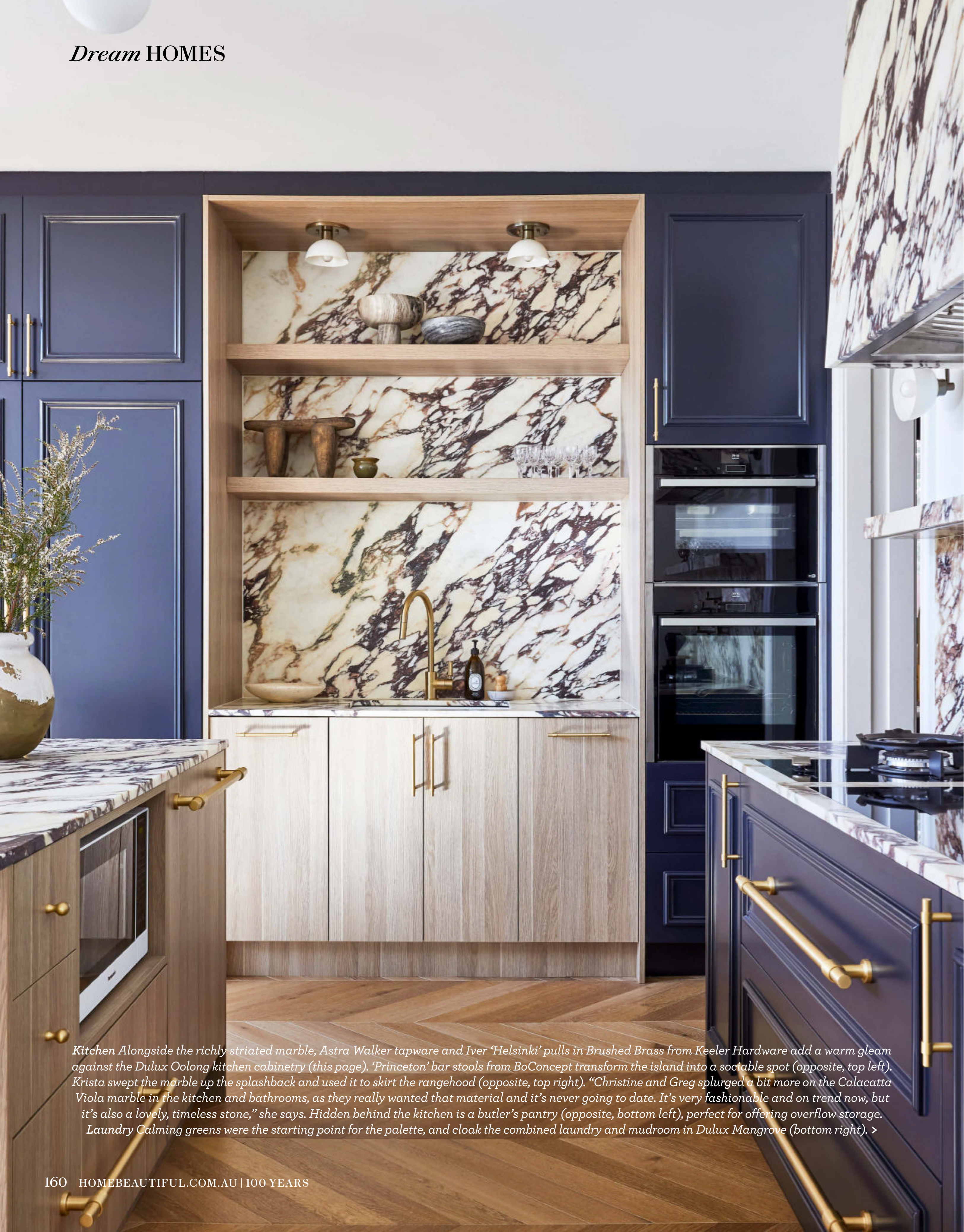


From top *Aerin 'Graphic Two-Tier* ***Chandelier****', $3690, The Montauk Lighting Co. Dulux Wash&Wear* ***paint*** *in Oolong, $116.90/4L. Plantino Engineered Oak 'Merrifield'* ***flooring*** *in Aspen, from $112.15/sqm, Choices Flooring. Calacatta Viola* ***marble****, from $1408/sqm, CDK Stone. 'Maki'* ***armchair*** *in Caramel Ash/Chalk Brushed Linen, $2350, MCM House. 'Oberon Crescent'* ***storage unit*** *in Matt Ocean Marble/ Smoked Ash, $3985, Globe West. 'Rawson'* ***dining table*** *in Messmate with Resin, $2999/270cm, Oz Design Furniture.* **>**

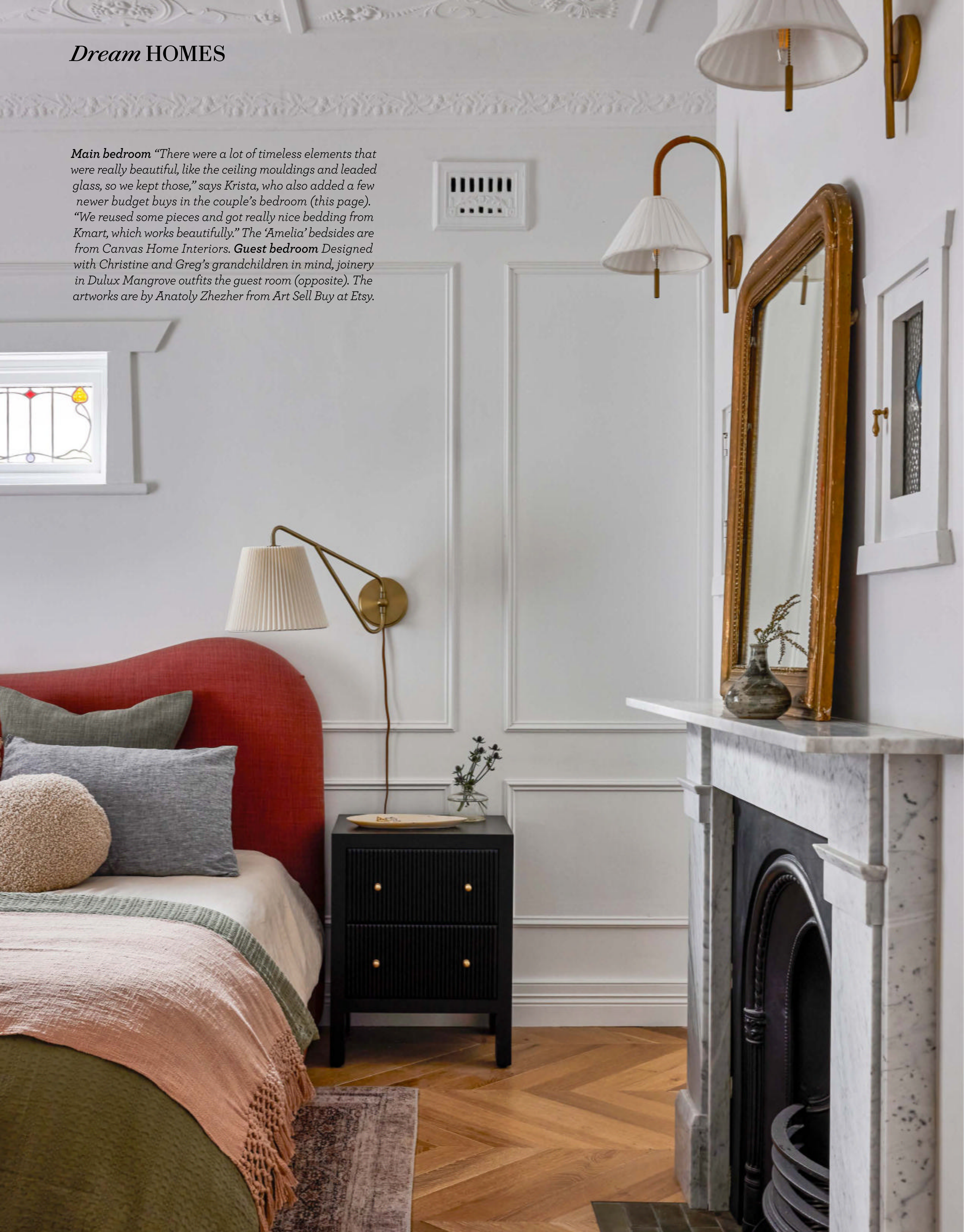


Living *A 'Tournage' standing lamp by Athena Calderone graces the built-in credenza in the living area (this page), near a wavy Globe West 'Verona' mirror and a sconce from Etsy. Krista specified timeless wall mouldings to infuse the interiors with the look Christine and Greg love. "They really wanted to honour the classic details that were already there, which California bungalows have, but modernise it as well," she explains. "Not only did we keep the ceiling mouldings, but we enhanced them by adding wall mouldings." For similar moulding profiles, try 'IN23' timber inlay moulds from Intrim.* ***Dining*** *Bathed in natural light from sunshine that streams through new steel-framed doors, a generous dining table from MCM House and 'Dane' chairs from Globe West define the dining area (opposite). Krista sourced the raw brass 'Arrow' pendant overhead from Etsy, along with the picture light that illuminates a framed work by an unknown artist.* **>**

> *"We now feel very lucky to be through the renovation, which was a pretty overwhelming process at times ... we are well settled and extremely happy in our new home"* CHRISTINE



Kitchen *Alongside the richly striated marble, Astra Walker tapware and Iver 'Helsinki' pulls in Brushed Brass from Keeler Hardware add a warm gleam against the Dulux Oolong kitchen cabinetry (this page). 'Princeton' bar stools from BoConcept transform the island into a sociable spot (opposite, top left). Krista swept the marble up the splashback and used it to skirt the rangehood (opposite, top right). "Christine and Greg splurged a bit more on the Calacatta Viola marble in the kitchen and bathrooms, as they really wanted that material and it's never going to date. It's very fashionable and on trend now, but it's also a lovely, timeless stone," she says. Hidden behind the kitchen is a butler's pantry (opposite, bottom left), perfect for offering overflow storage.* ***Laundry*** *Calming greens were the starting point for the palette, and cloak the combined laundry and mudroom in Dulux Mangrove (bottom right).* >



Main bedroom *"There were a lot of timeless elements that were really beautiful, like the ceiling mouldings and leaded glass, so we kept those," says Krista, who also added a few newer budget buys in the couple's bedroom (this page). "We reused some pieces and got really nice bedding from Kmart, which works beautifully." The 'Amelia' bedsides are from Canvas Home Interiors.* ***Guest bedroom*** *Designed with Christine and Greg's grandchildren in mind, joinery in Dulux Mangrove outfits the guest room (opposite). The artworks are by Anatoly Zhezher from Art Sell Buy at Etsy.*

Realising the dream

Having an entertainer's home was a must for Christine and Greg, who had long coveted a sheltered alfresco living zone. "Despite having a beautiful, sprawling home before, they've never had an undercover area where they could entertain outside," says Krista.

To bring their vision to life, she proposed a covered, spacious deck that now wraps around the home, flows directly off the indoor living area and is styled just as beautifully with alfresco furniture and decor. "They go out every morning and have a coffee in their new outdoor area at the back," says Krista. "They love starting their day like that, it puts smiles on their faces."

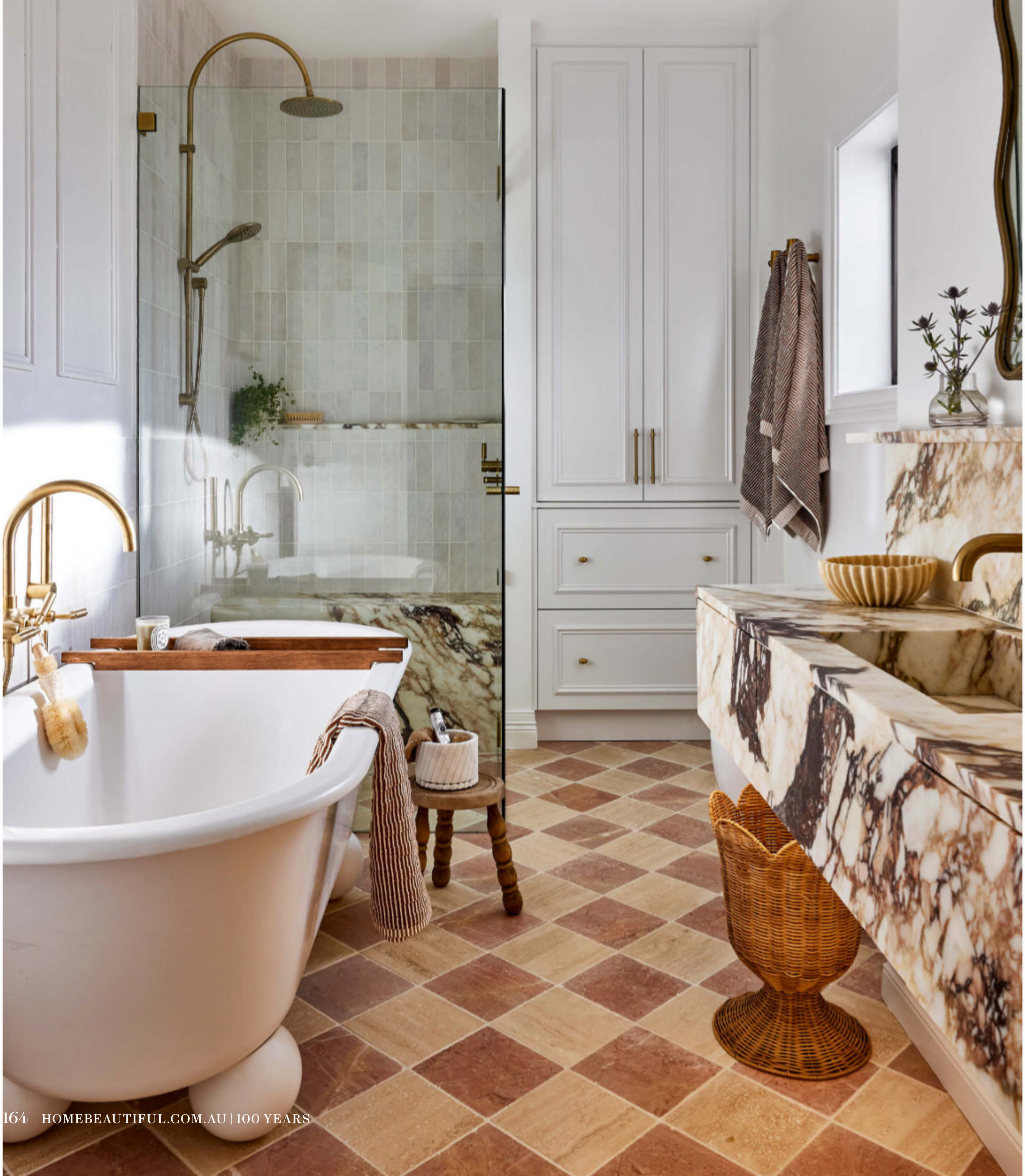
Inside, Krista improved the flow, added gorgeous storage and new joinery, and future-proofed each space so Christine and Greg can age happily – and stylishy – in their new forever home.

Lessons learnt

Despite most of the changes being internal, Christine and Greg needed to lodge a Development Application (DA) with council to alter their home's exterior envelope. This gave them greater creative freedom than if they'd worked within the stringent rules of a Complying Development Certificate (CDC), which governs internal building works. However, they lost six precious months waiting for DA approval. "If you can stay within your building envelope with whatever renovation you want to do, that's great, as you can get a CDC through council fast," explains Krista.

While the wait was anticipated, what caught everyone off guard was the soaring price of materials in the wake of Covid. In just 10 short months between starting the design and the build, Christine and Greg needed to increase their budget to achieve the dream. >

__Main bathroom__ Honeyed hues sweep through the bathroom (this page), with its vanity crafted by Prego Marble & Granite Works and chequerboard Perini 'Goza' floor tiles in Tumbled Travertine and Tumbled Rosetta. The playful Dado Quartz 'Liberty' ball-foot bath caters to the couple's grandchildren, while a beautiful bench in the shower offers a perch for grown-ups. Krista styled the space with an Adairs basket and an artwork purchased in Oenpelli, Arnhem Land (opposite, top right). A Globe West mirror and 'Talisman' sconce from Etsy add interest. __Laundry__ Krista included a banquette in the laundry (opposite, top left), letting it serve as a mudroom, and papered the walls with an Olive et Oriel 'Eucalyptus' mural. __Main ensuite__ "Christine and Greg want to be able to age in place," says Krista, so this informed the layout of the main ensuite (opposite, bottom left). "I didn't want it to be too narrow in case they ever had a walker or a cane, but it isn't – it's a great use of space." __Powder room__ Walls in Dulux Oolong and art by Piotr Sytnik adorn the powder room (opposite, bottom right). **>**



THE DREAM JOURNEY

Who? *Christine and Greg, who downsized from the couple's larger family home nearby.* ***Where?*** *A single-storey 1930s California bungalow on Sydney's North Shore.* ***Time frame?*** *Design work began in October 2022, a DA was submitted to council in February 2023 and approval was granted in July 2023. Building started one month later, finishing in June 2024.* ***The dream?*** *To improve flow, infuse the home with style and storage, and cater to hosting.* ***Approach?*** *The interiors received a top-to-toe revamp, a new deck was added to the exterior, and the carport and studio were fully renovated.* ***Must-haves?*** *A single-storey home so they can age happily in place, with large indoor and outdoor entertaining areas, a garage, and a low-maintenance design they can lock up and leave when travelling.* ***Wishlist?*** *"The self-contained, detached studio was a real bonus, which certainly had not been included on our wishlist!" says Christine.* ***Why is this your dream home?*** *"We are well-settled and extremely happy in our new home and now couldn't imagine living anywhere else," shares Christine.*

Best advice

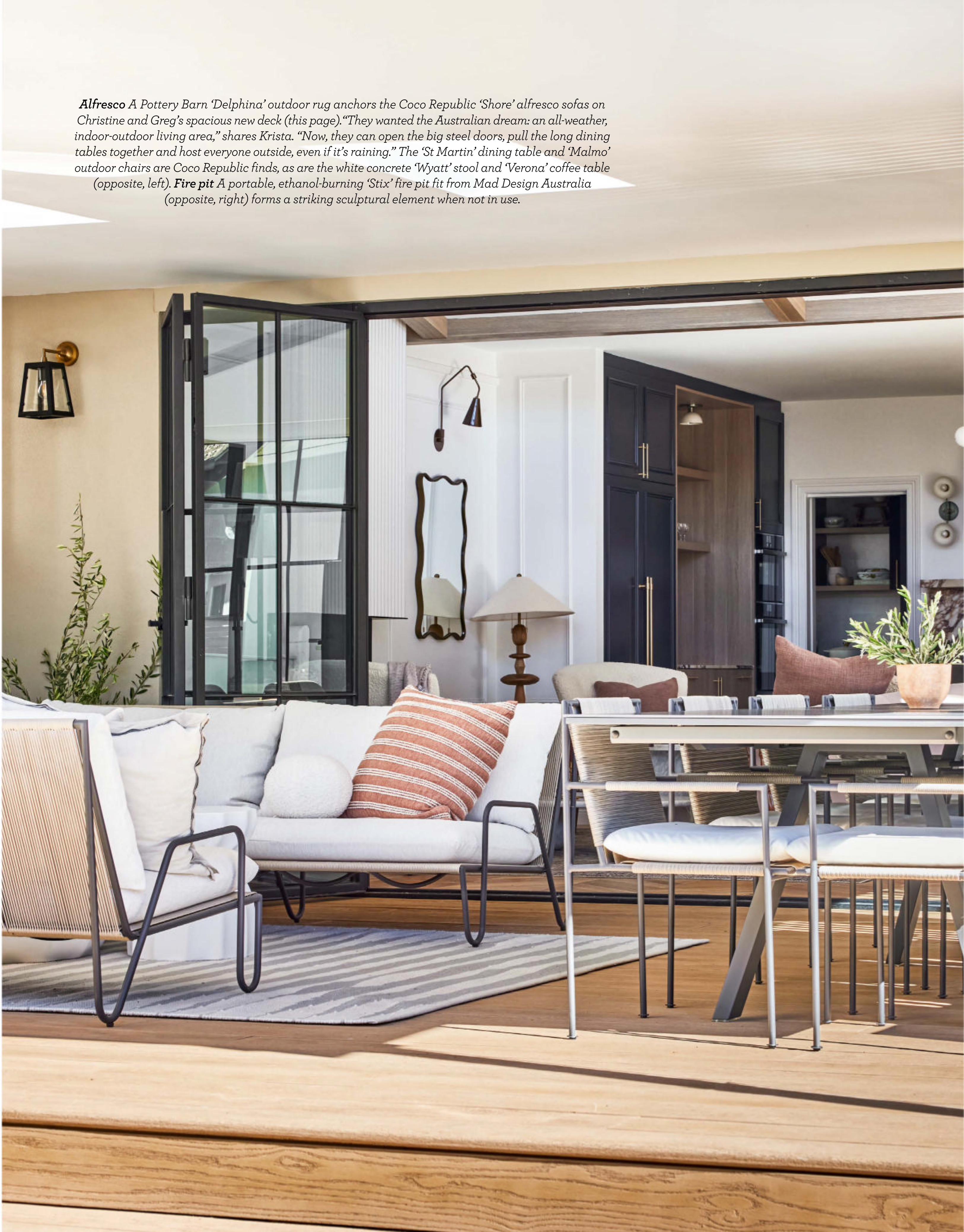
Every renovation, without exception, involves compromises. "I always ask my clients in the very beginning, 'When that time comes for us, would you rather compromise on budget or aesthetic?'" says Krista. "Nine times out of 10, they say budget. I've never seen anybody wish they hadn't chosen the nicer option." She also says it's vital to be upfront with your designer or architect about which rooms or features you value and which are lower priorities.

Krista suggests adding 30 per cent to every quote, from your joists to your joinery. "Give yourself a buffer, then ask for that amount when you go to the bank," she says. "It's better having extra money there now, even if you are paying a bit of interest on it, than needing to request it later, as delays can cost you a lot more in the long run. And if you don't need it, you've only paid a small amount for peace of mind and to keep your project on track."

Working with a reputable builder is key, though Krista cautions clients that the golden days of fixed-price contracts are numbered. "If you do have one though, chances are they've built that buffer in already. So you may be paying a little bit more upfront, but you'll have that extra peace of mind," she explains.

Source book

Interior design *Krista Collard Interiors, kristacollarddesigns.com.* ***Joinery*** *Furnisa, furnisa.com.au.* ***Builder*** *Ducker Constructions, @duckerconstructions.*



Alfresco *A Pottery Barn 'Delphina' outdoor rug anchors the Coco Republic 'Shore' alfresco sofas on Christine and Greg's spacious new deck (this page)."They wanted the Australian dream: an all-weather, indoor-outdoor living area," shares Krista. "Now, they can open the big steel doors, pull the long dining tables together and host everyone outside, even if it's raining." The 'St Martin' dining table and 'Malmo' outdoor chairs are Coco Republic finds, as are the white concrete 'Wyatt' stool and 'Verona' coffee table (opposite, left).* ***Fire pit*** *A portable, ethanol-burning 'Stix' fire pit fit from Mad Design Australia (opposite, right) forms a striking sculptural element when not in use.*

DECORATION

GRAND DESIGNS

THE LONG-AWAITED MAKEOVER OF THIS BRISBANE HOME EMBODIES THE STYLE AND PERSONALITIES OF ITS OCCUPANTS TO PERFECTION

Story **STEPHANIE HOPE** Photography **HANNAH PUECHMARIN**

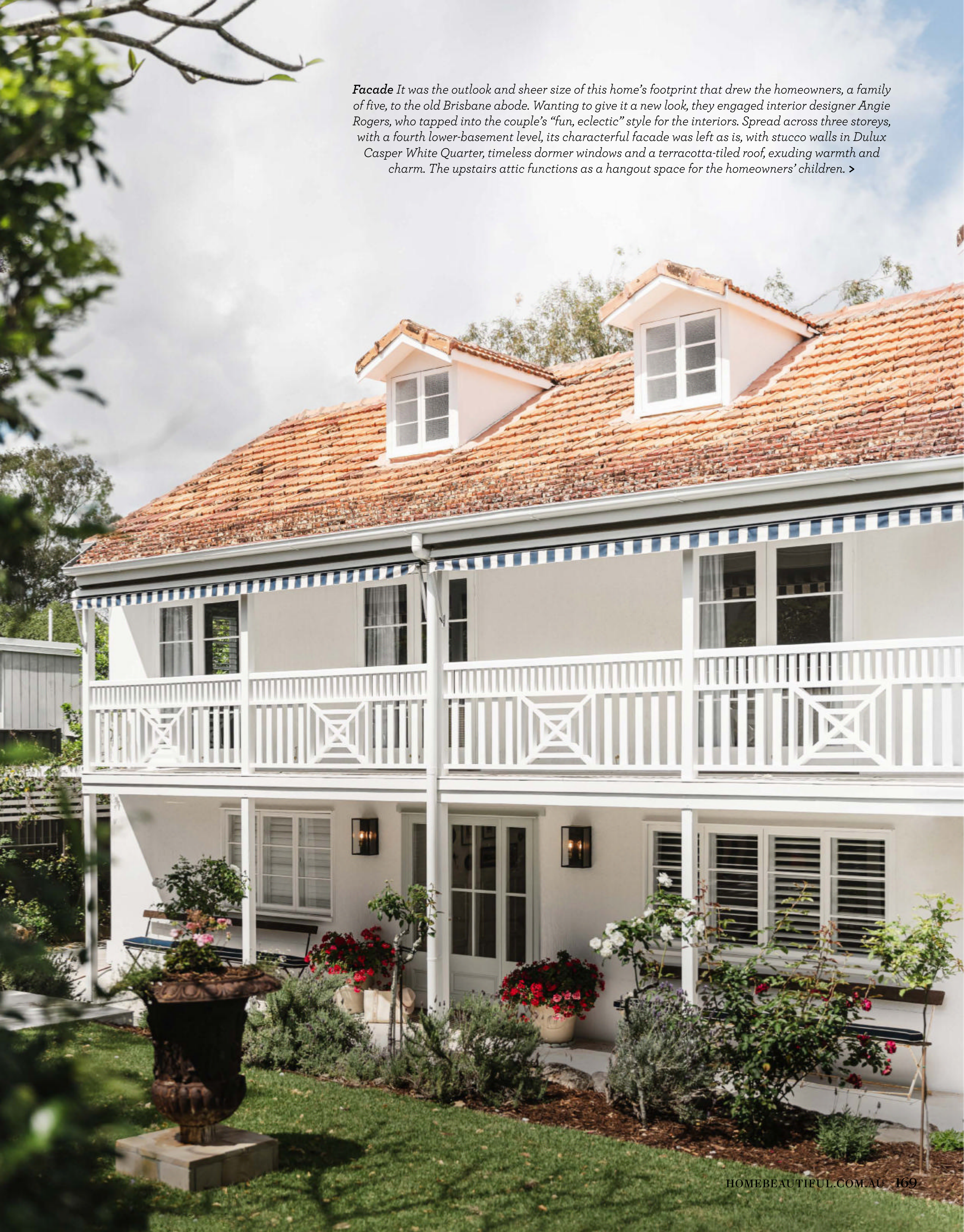
Set on a hill overlooking a mature eucalypt forest and enjoying Brisbane city views, this home blends character and elegance to serve as a serene retreat for the family of five who lives here. "While you're fewer than six kilometres from the Brisbane CBD, you could be in the country," says one of the homeowners.

The house dates back nearly 100 years and had been given a Tuscan-style renovation by previous owners in the 1990s. It was tasteful enough, but the new custodians wanted to add their own personality and modern necessities, such as air conditioning, storage and a functional kitchen.

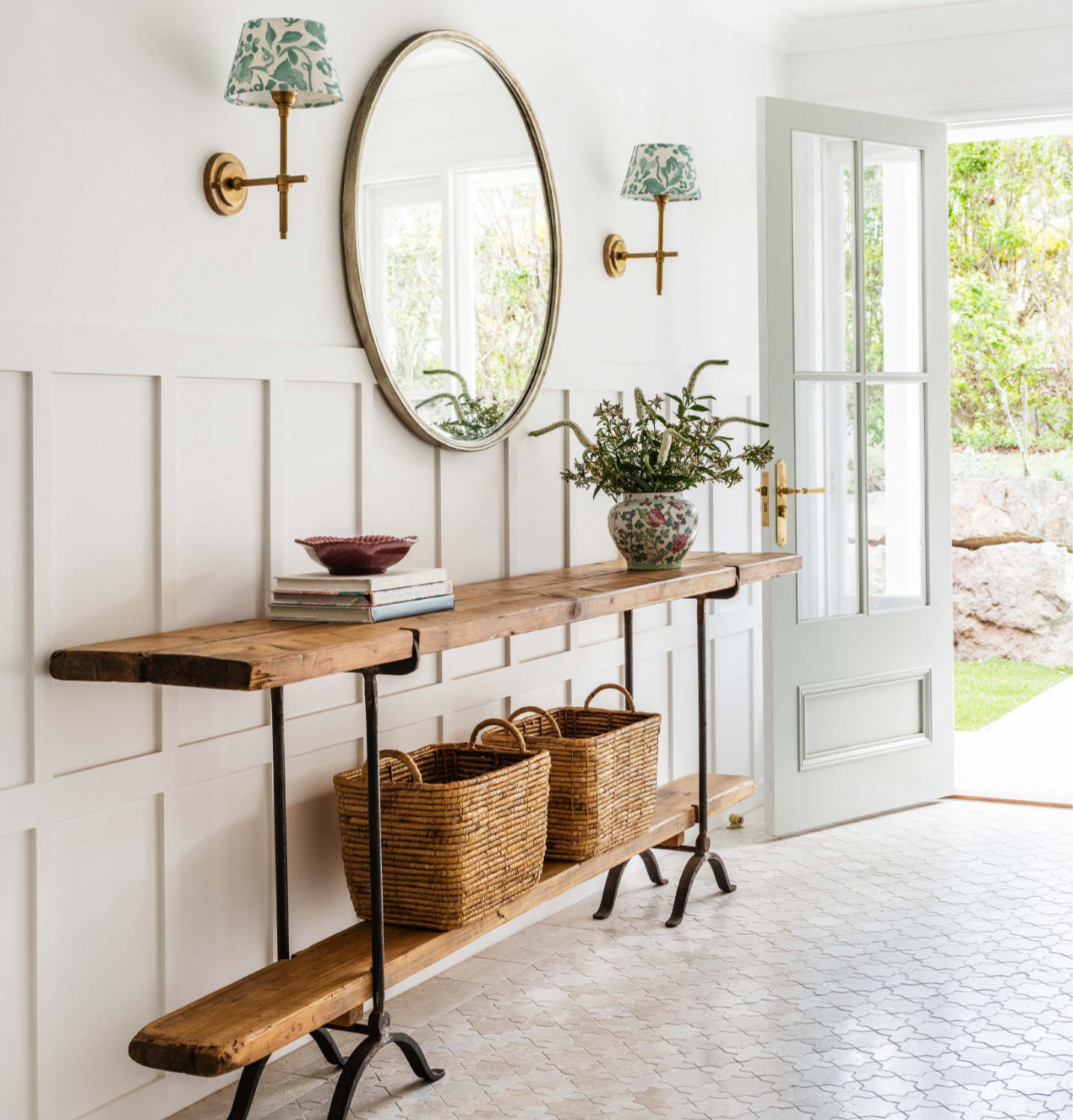
In 2020, having fine-tuned their wishlist for years, they approached building designers Concepts Unlimited Design to reimagine the space and asked interior designer Angie Rogers to oversee the decoration. "They have a wonderful collection of heirloom pieces and antiques, so we wanted to include vintage elements and personal touches on display throughout the home, but executed in a contemporary way," she says.

ARTWORKS (TOP LEFT) **JONES & CO** (BOTTOM LEFT) **ARTIST UNKNOWN** (RIGHT) **ENGRAVING BY AH FULLWOOD FROM 'PICTURESQUE ATLAS OF AUSTRALASIA' BY ANDREW GARRAN** ALL PAINT COLOURS MAY VARY ON APPLICATION

__Facade__ It was the outlook and sheer size of this home's footprint that drew the homeowners, a family of five, to the old Brisbane abode. Wanting to give it a new look, they engaged interior designer Angie Rogers, who tapped into the couple's "fun, eclectic" style for the interiors. Spread across three storeys, with a fourth lower-basement level, its characterful facade was left as is, with stucco walls in Dulux Casper White Quarter, timeless dormer windows and a terracotta-tiled roof, exuding warmth and charm. The upstairs attic functions as a hangout space for the homeowners' children. >

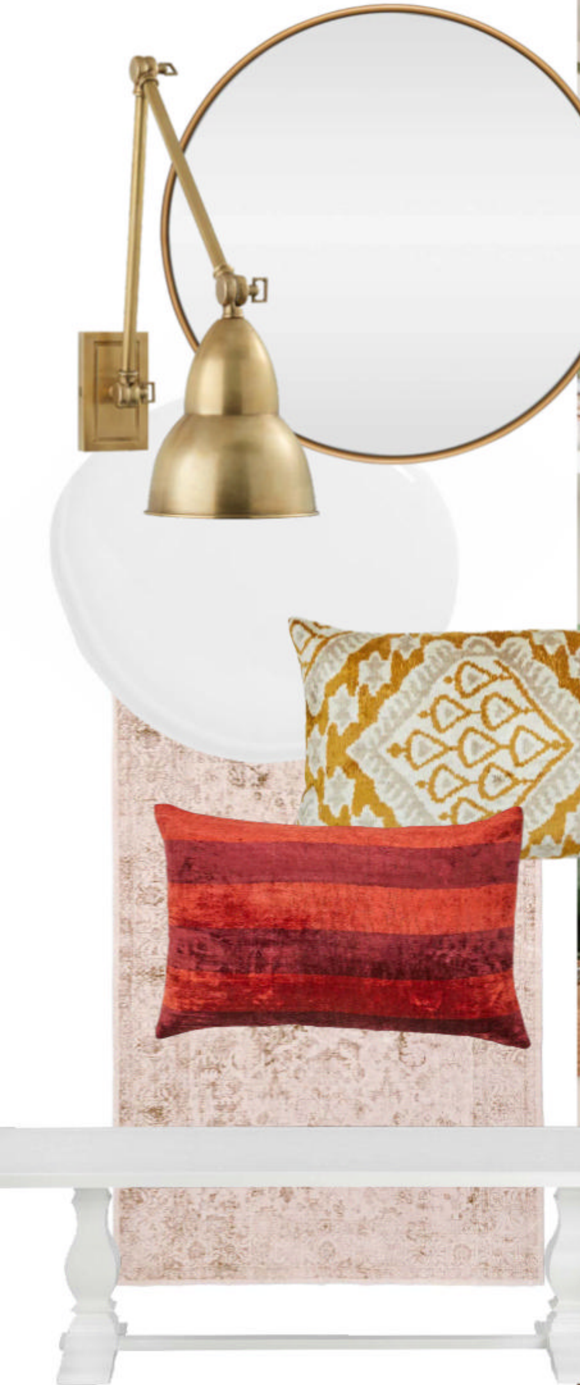


Entry *"The existing entry lacked any wow-factor for such a grand style of home," says Angie, but the breezy new entry foyer (this page) has plenty. 'Rosca' marble mosaics from Edge Tile & Stone feel amazing underfoot and "give the impression of both grandeur and warmth – we love it," say the homeowners. Angie teamed a console from Woolloongabba Antique Centre and a mirror from Warranbrooke with Emac & Lawton 'Dino' sconces, which she recovered in a designer remnant fabric for a cost-effective finish. Avid art collectors, the homeowners' pieces include a nude by François Boucher, 'Soleil Sun Heart' and 'Soleil Pineapple' tiles from Jones & Co, and a work of Palm Cove by J Payne (opposite, top right).* ***Living*** *Joinery in Polytec's 'Sussex' profile in Ghostgum and 'Woodmatt' in Boston Oak adds much-needed storage in the living area (opposite, top left). 'Rum Jungle' by Janey Forbes hangs above a bone inlay dresser (opposite, bottom right).* ***Stairwell*** *"Angie was amazing with bringing her own style and seamlessly enmeshing it with our own," say the owners of the stairwell (opposite, bottom left).* **>**

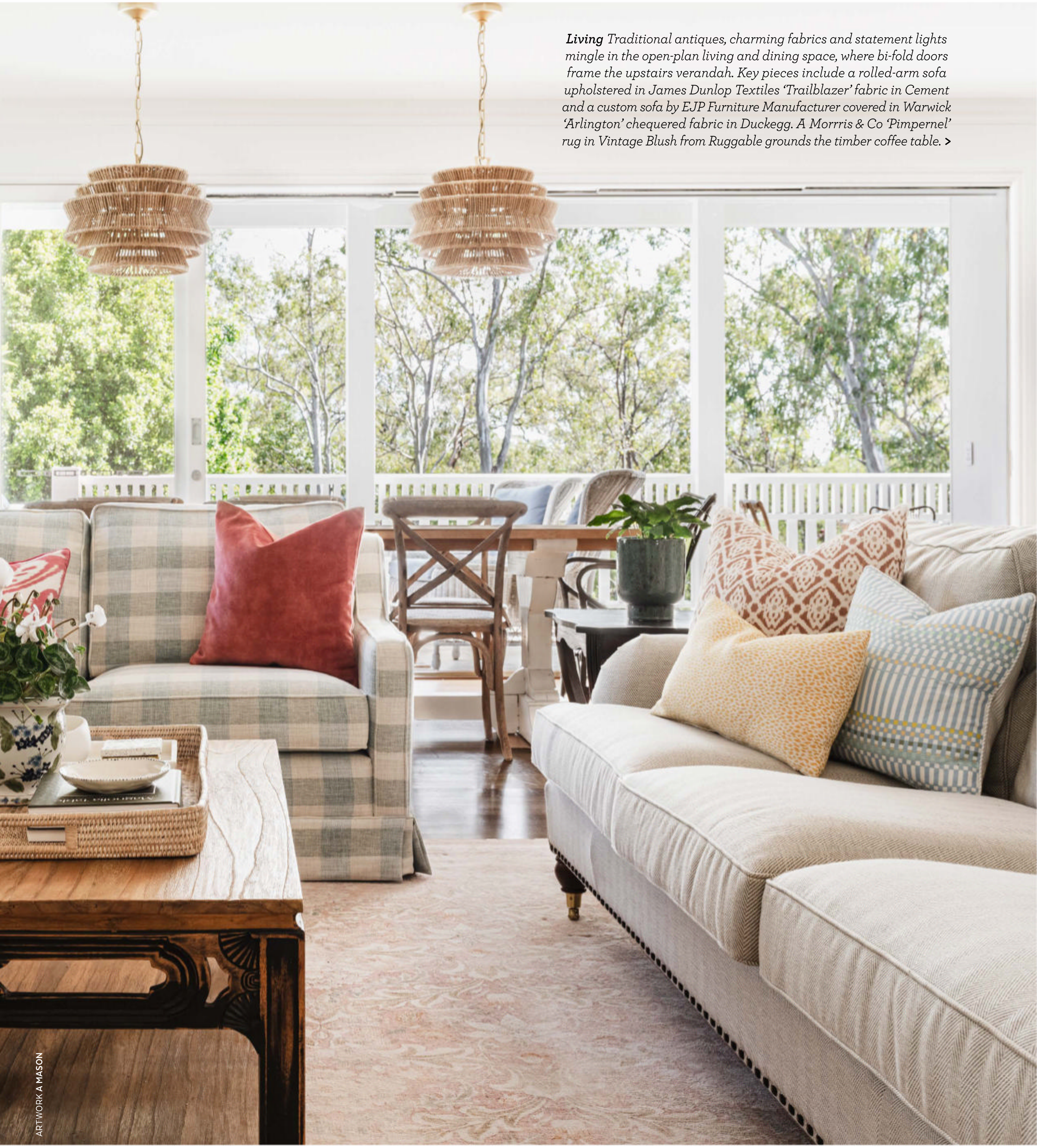


ALL OTHER ARTWORKS **ARTISTS UNKNOWN**

THE PALETTE

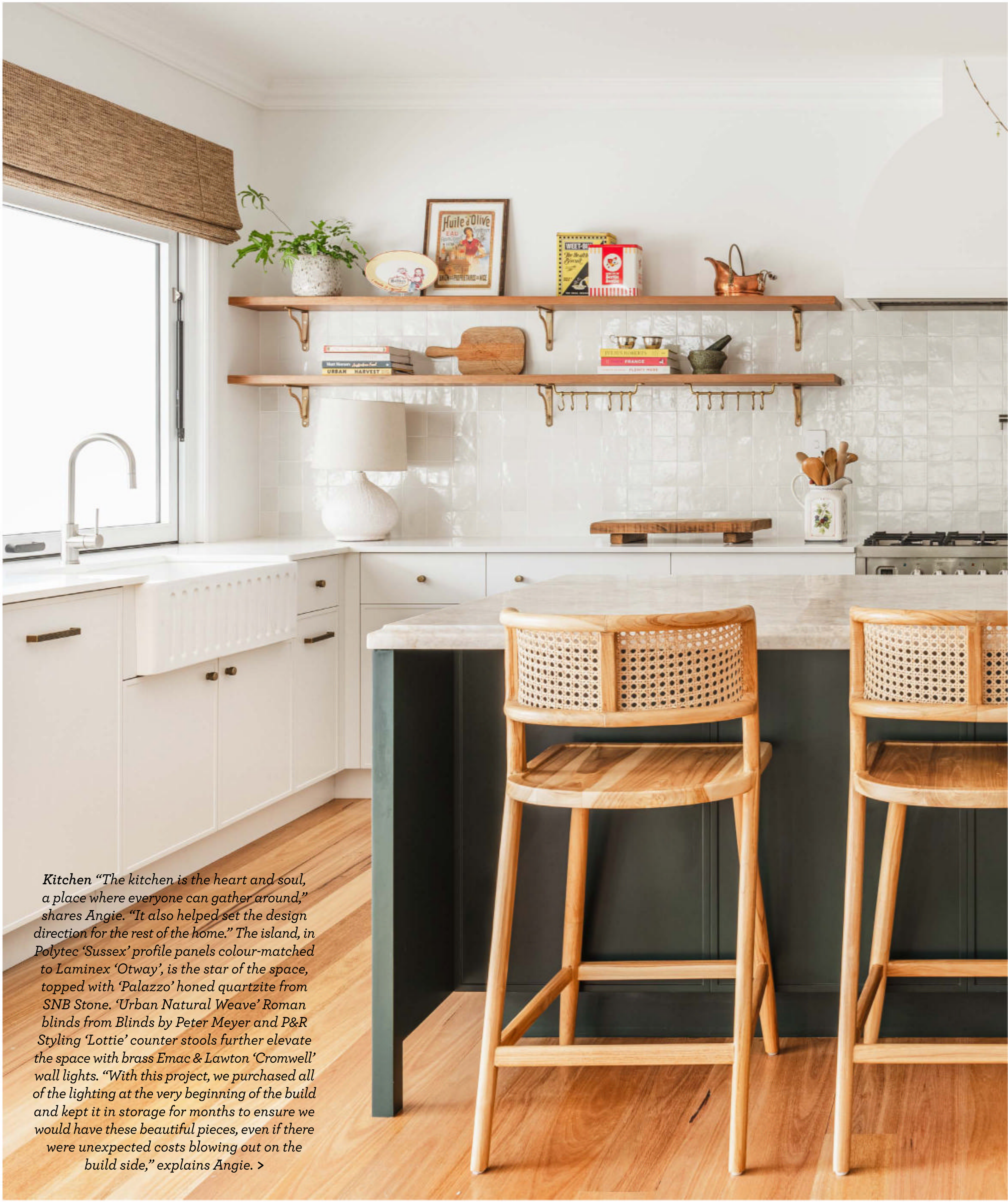


From top *'Penny Round'* ***mirror*** *in Gold, $499/120cm, Oz Design. Studio VC 'French Library Double Arm'* ***wall light****, $840, The Montauk Lighting Co. Dulux Wash&Wear* ***paint*** *in Casper White Quarter, $98.90/4L. 'Zulta'* ***cushions*** *in Sahara (top) and Spice Road (bottom), $240 each/60cm x 40cm, Fenton & Fenton. Daisie Rug Studio 'Juno Kallista' machine washable* ***rug****, $399/ 180cm x 120cm, Temple & Webster.*



ARTWORK A MASON

Living *Traditional antiques, charming fabrics and statement lights mingle in the open-plan living and dining space, where bi-fold doors frame the upstairs verandah. Key pieces include a rolled-arm sofa upholstered in James Dunlop Textiles 'Trailblazer' fabric in Cement and a custom sofa by EJP Furniture Manufacturer covered in Warwick 'Arlington' chequered fabric in Duckegg. A Morrris & Co 'Pimpernel' rug in Vintage Blush from Ruggable grounds the timber coffee table.* **>**

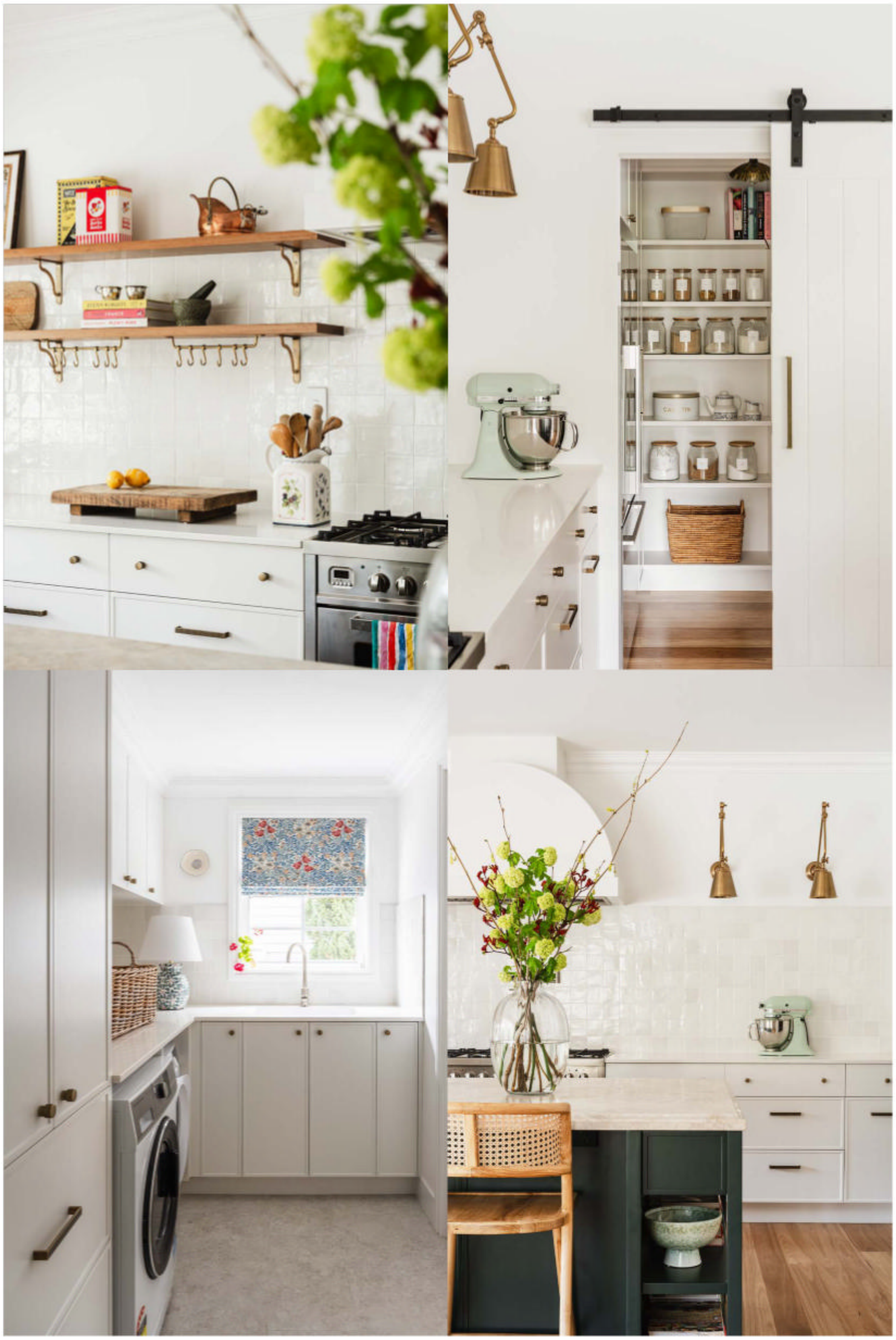


Kitchen *"The kitchen is the heart and soul, a place where everyone can gather around," shares Angie. "It also helped set the design direction for the rest of the home." The island, in Polytec 'Sussex' profile panels colour-matched to Laminex 'Otway', is the star of the space, topped with 'Palazzo' honed quartzite from SNB Stone. 'Urban Natural Weave' Roman blinds from Blinds by Peter Meyer and P&R Styling 'Lottie' counter stools further elevate the space with brass Emac & Lawton 'Cromwell' wall lights. "With this project, we purchased all of the lighting at the very beginning of the build and kept it in storage for months to ensure we would have these beautiful pieces, even if there were unexpected costs blowing out on the build side," explains Angie.* >

"Solid timber flooring has a timeless, natural beauty and will age and deepen in colour over time" **ANGIE**

ARTWORK ARTIST UNKNOWN

"The kitchen, lounge and dining are now the central hub of the home – open, bright and welcoming" **ANGIE**



Kitchen *Small details in the handles, hooks, knobs and shelf brackets add to the appeal of the kitchen (top left). "We designed the kitchen island to feel like a piece of furniture," says Angie of the statement joinery unit, complete with open shelving to display vignettes (bottom right). "The deep green has a moody, vintage feel – it's classic and timeless and speaks to the owners' vintage pieces."* ***Butler's pantry*** *The couple can access everything they need in the shelf-lined butler's pantry (top right), which can be closed from view with a large barn-style sliding door.* ***Laundry*** *A 'Kingsley' mixer in Brushed Nickel from ABI Interiors, 'Florence' lamp from Adairs and custom blind in Morris & Co 'Bower' fabric bring style to the laundry (bottom left). 'Trinity Bianco' rectified tiles from Edge Tile & Stone echo the floor mosaics in the entry.* ***Dining*** *Meals are enjoyed at the family's existing farmhouse-style table and antique chairs, with two 'Antigua' small drum chandeliers in Natural Abaca from Bloomingdales Lighting suspended above (opposite).* **>**

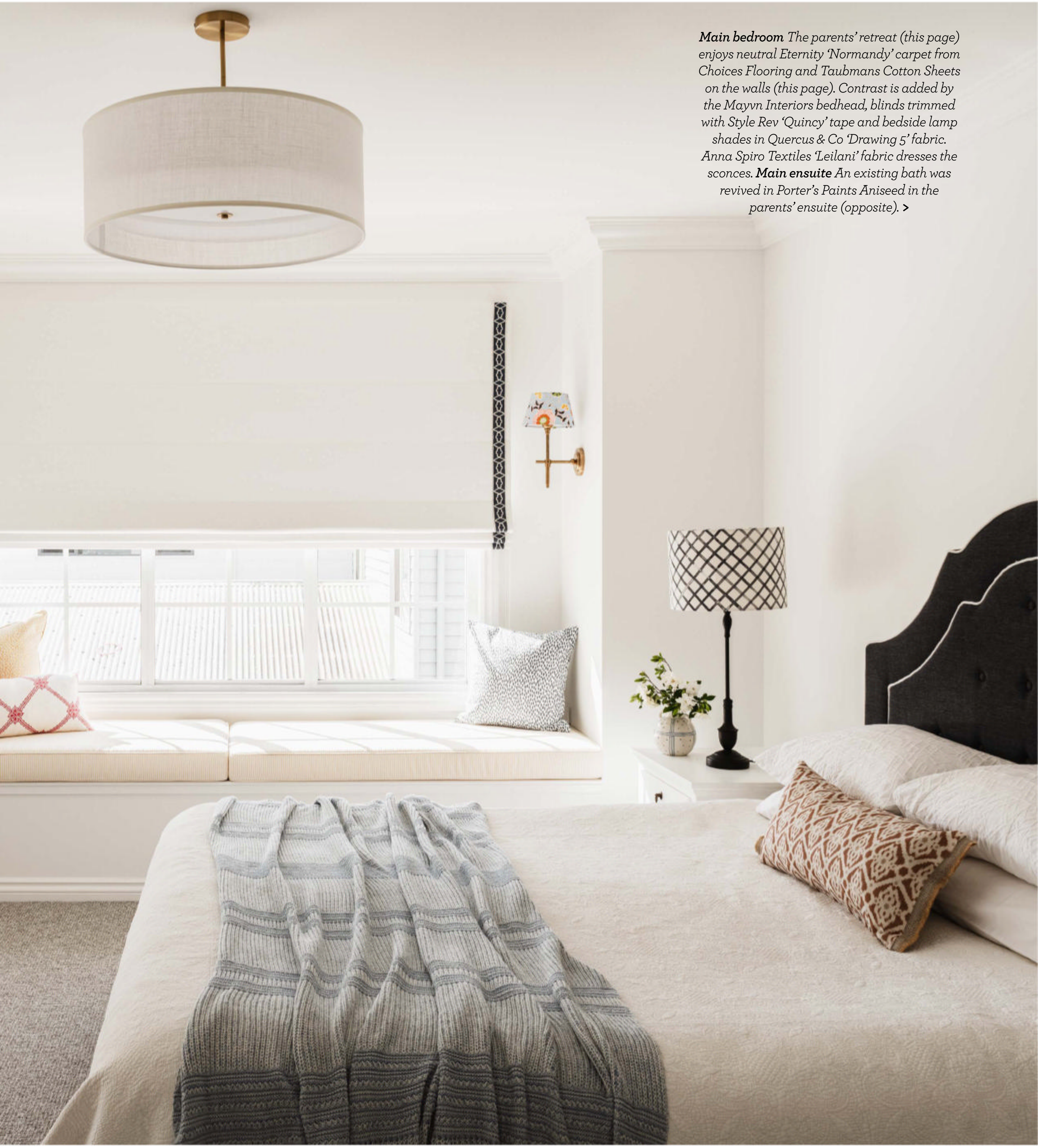
Realising the dream

Greeting the family as soon as they get home, the light-filled entrance is a dream come true for the couple, and one of their favourite aspects of the new design. The marble floor mosaics and white walls provide the perfect backdrop for the their cherished collection of artworks.

Each of the four bathrooms now has its own personality, utilising pops of colour and pattern, mixed materials and statement lighting to make them unique, though for cohesion, 'Trinity Bianco' floor tiles feature throughout. "Stepping into the bathrooms, Angie's hand-picked finishes give the impression of being in a five-star hotel," say the homeowners.

The kitchen – with its deep green joinery, quartzite-topped island, generous butler's pantry and window overlooking the trees – was designed especially for the lady of the house, who is a keen chef.

"I remember the husband saying to me that he wanted the kitchen to be beautiful for her," shares Angie. "She is a fabulous cook and baker, and he felt she would always put herself last and deserved something gorgeous. I have visited several times since the project was completed to find Dad tucked up in his study, a string of kids piled on the sofa playing video games and Mum cooking away in the kitchen, delicious aromas filling the air."



Main bedroom *The parents' retreat (this page) enjoys neutral Eternity 'Normandy' carpet from Choices Flooring and Taubmans Cotton Sheets on the walls (this page). Contrast is added by the Mayvn Interiors bedhead, blinds trimmed with Style Rev 'Quincy' tape and bedside lamp shades in Quercus & Co 'Drawing 5' fabric. Anna Spiro Textiles 'Leilani' fabric dresses the sconces.* ***Main ensuite*** *An existing bath was revived in Porter's Paints Aniseed in the parents' ensuite (opposite).* **>**

THE DREAM JOURNEY

Who? *A busy couple live here with their three children.* ***Where?*** *A Brisbane abode built almost 100 years ago.* ***Timeframe?*** *After the couple spent several years planning, work began in June 2023 and finished in October 2024.* ***The dream?*** *To include contemporary comforts in the classic home and fill it with the family's personalities.* ***Approach?*** *The couple engaged interior designer Angie Rogers to help them decorate this home, which had been recently renovated by local building design firm Concepts Unlimited Design.* ***Must-haves?*** *Opportunities to display the homeowners' art, plus ducted air conditioning, better storage and a fully functioning kitchen.* ***Wishlist?*** *To infuse the rooms with stylish wow-factor as well as improving liveability.* ***Why is this your dream home?*** *"We love that the house feels like we are in an Australian bush setting, yet we are only six kilometres from Brisbane's CBD. The house really capitalises on the forest vista and is the perfect spot to entertain or relax with family."*

Lessons learnt

Decorating this home was a lesson in how to cleverly mix "splurge and save" pieces. "Buy quality items in areas that do the heavy lifting, such as door and cabinet handles, tapware, sofa fabrics and flooring – things that will be touched multiples times a day," says Angie.

She placed luxe materials where they would be most noticed – the marble floor tiles in the entry and the dreamy quartzite on the island benchtop – then opted for similar but less expensive surfaces for other areas. Angie also put offcuts to use and upholstered small items and soft furnishings with fabric remnants.

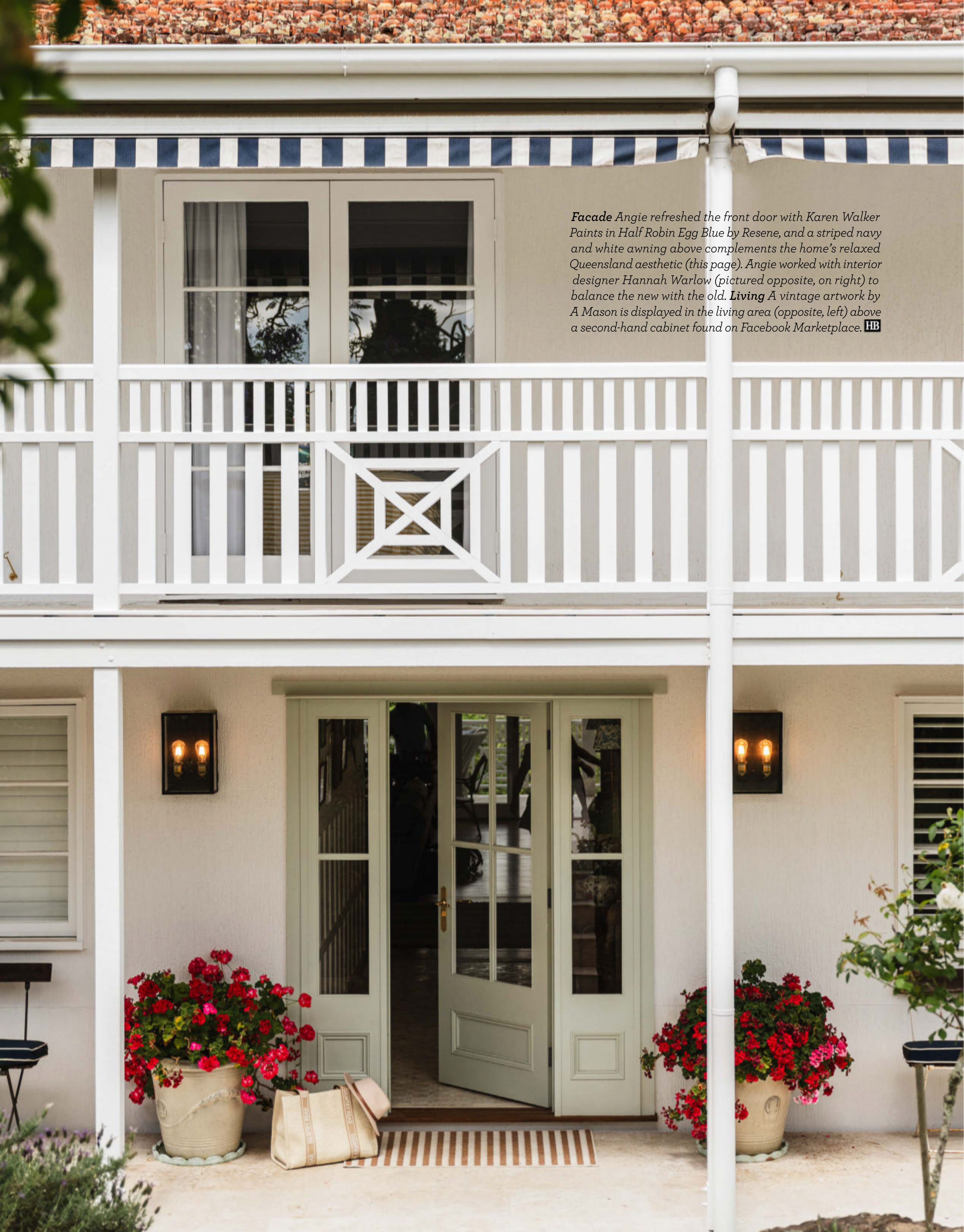
Best advice

Angie's advice is to set your decorating budget at the start of a project. "Often the furnishing stage of a project is left until the end, when funds may have run out," she says. "You can have the most beautifully built house, but you need the furnishings and styling to bring it all together and make it feel like a home."

She suggests listing every room and item you'll need to complete each space, including pieces you already own. "Think about lighting, window coverings, wallpaper, furniture, rugs, soft furnishings and styling accessories, setting a price point for each new item," says Angie.

Source book

Interior design *Angie Rogers Interiors, angierogersinteriors.com.au.* ***Joinery*** *McInnes & Hill Designs, mcinnesandhilldesigns.com.au.* ***Building designer*** *Concepts Unlimited Design, cudesign.com.au.*



Facade Angie refreshed the front door with Karen Walker Paints in Half Robin Egg Blue by Resene, and a striped navy and white awning above complements the home's relaxed Queensland aesthetic (this page). Angie worked with interior designer Hannah Warlow (pictured opposite, on right) to balance the new with the old. **Living** A vintage artwork by A Mason is displayed in the living area (opposite, left) above a second-hand cabinet found on Facebook Marketplace. HB

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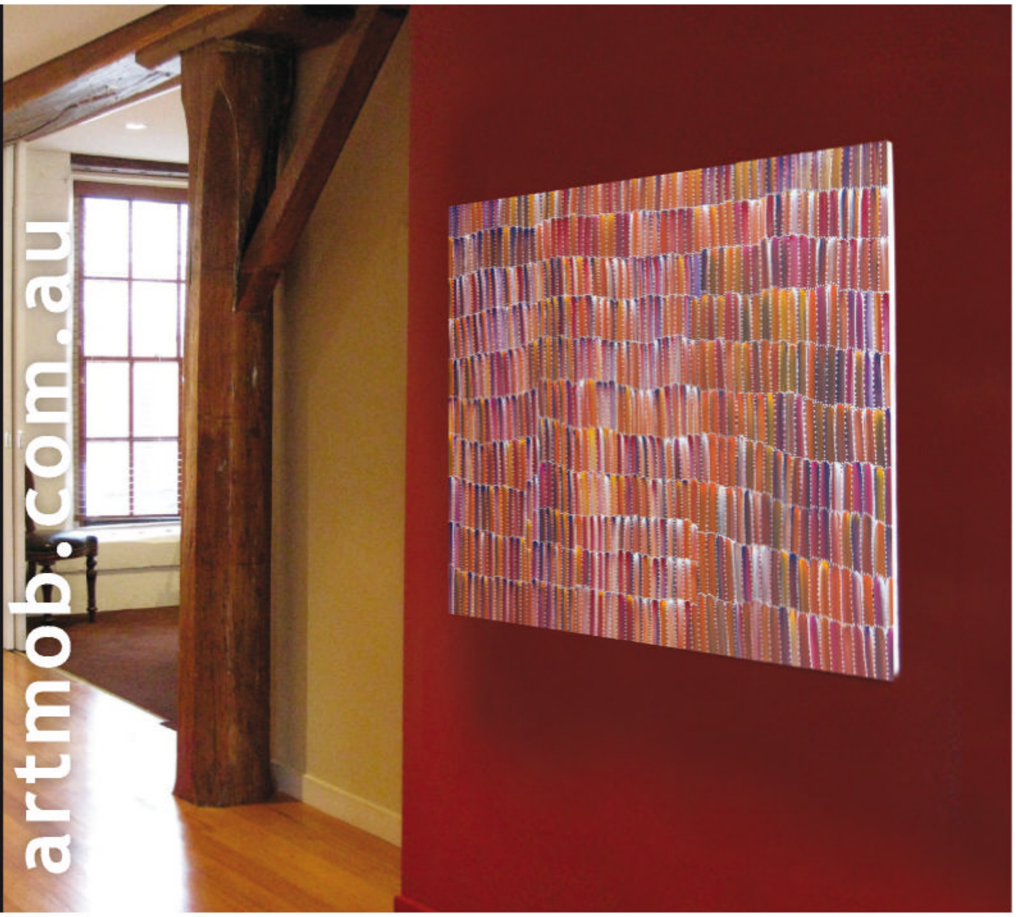

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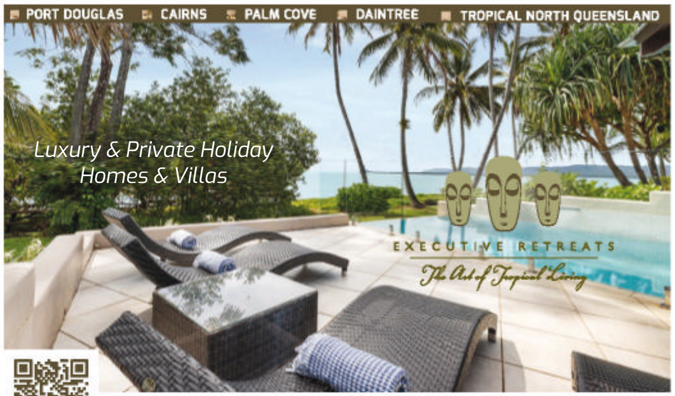

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